



EARL DE GREY
First President, R.I.B.A., 1835-59

The First Half-Century of the R.I.B.A.

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Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 15 May 1922

THE eloquent prelude to the tribute of praise paid to departed worthies, which is to be found in the 44th chapter of Ecclesiasticus, is also an apt prelude to the story of the early years of the Royal Institute. It need not be quoted in its entirety, a few phrases will suffice :

"Let us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begat us . . . Leaders of the people by their counsels, and by their knowledge of learning meet for the people, wise and eloquent in their instructions. . . . Rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations."

The aptness is obvious. We can all agree that architects may become famous, we cannot deny that our fathers begat us, we can concede that some of us become leaders by our counsels, and some, although perhaps fewer, by a knowledge of learning ; we can

easily believe that wisdom is apparent in us and eloquence latent, but "rich men furnished with ability" gives us pause. There is no difficulty about the ability, but a "rich architect" would strike most of us as a contradiction in terms. And yet there were, in the early days of the Institute, architects rich enough and generous enough and sufficiently devoted to its interests to endow it handsomely.

The picture of the Institute in its earliest times is one in which the foreground is filled with men of ability, some of them famous and many of them with a wide knowledge of learning, while the background is dimly peopled with others neither rich nor furnished with much ability and living peaceably in their habitations unstirred by the eloquence or wisdom of their more energetic brethren.

The Institute was not the first association of archi-

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pects who banded themselves together for mutual support and instruction, but it was the most enterprising and the most enduring.

Already in the year 1806 the *London Architectural Society* had been founded, with rules of almost Draconian severity. The reason given for its inception was that "among the Institutions so liberally established in this City there is not one calculated for the encouragement of Architecture. The feeble protection afforded by the Royal Academy can hardly be deemed an exception." The encouragement and protection offered by the Society were not calculated to be widespread, for every ordinary member was required to produce annually an architectural design never before in any way made public, under forfeiture of two guineas, and an essay, under forfeiture of half-a-guinea. The Society met once a fortnight for the purpose of discussing these productions, and anyone who was absent from two successive meetings was fined five shillings. The designs and essays became the property of the Society, who published such as they thought worthy of the honour, and generously presented two copies to the author. A society with such exacting regulations was necessarily rather exclusive, and, indeed, it is a matter of wonder whether after filling the offices of President, four Vice-presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, there was anyone left to play the part of ordinary member. However, it attracted a number of the leading architects of the time, including such men as Ashpitel, Billings, Elmes, and Joseph Woods. But it did not live long: probably its own good qualities were its undoing.

Another Society was instituted in 1831, called the *Architectural Society*, of which the ultimate ambition was "to form a British School of Architecture, with the advantage of a Library, Museum, Professorships and periodical exhibitions." For some reason, of which there is no record, this Society did not satisfy architects of the time, for in January, 1834, a meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern to form another society, "for the study of Architecture and Architectural Topography." The promoters, however, could not agree upon either the objects to be aimed at, or the conditions of membership, so a few of them decided to hold another meeting at another hotel, and a committee was appointed which included such names as P. F. Robinson, Kendall, Goldicutt, Fowler, Donaldson and Noble. The business of the committee was to draw up a scheme for the formation of an Institution to up-

hold the character and improve the attainments of Architects. Their labours must have been attended with success, for at a subsequent meeting Messrs. Barry, Basevi, Decimus Burton, Cresy, J. Gwilt, Hardwick, Kay, Lee, Sir J. Rennie, Papworth, Robinson, Seward and G. Taylor were elected as original members.

By the end of 1834 the new Society, under the style of the "Institute of British Architects," was so far constituted as to have a council and a number of ordinary members, for on the 18th of that month the honorary secretary, Thomas L. Donaldson, issued a notice of a meeting of the Council on the following Tuesday at 7 o'clock, to be followed by a special general meeting and an ordinary meeting of members in order to take into consideration a recommendation that the number of the council should be increased.

This is the earliest written record concerning the Institute that has been preserved in its archives. The writer is the accomplished Professor Donaldson, the only one of the founders who was alive at the end of the first fifty years of its existence, and one who during the whole of that period took an active part in its affairs, and indeed did probably more than any other person to mould its policy and direct its activities.

On 1 January 1835 another notice for an ordinary meeting was issued, and as the draft directs 18 copies to be made, it is not unreasonable to assume that that number represented the membership at the time. On 30 January a summons was issued for a council meeting to be held on 3 February in order to consider the desirability of "taking the adjoining room," and as to the election of a President. This notice is signed by Thos. L. Donaldson and John Goldicutt as honorary secretaries. The headquarters of the infant Institute were then at 43, King Street, Covent Garden—in other words, at Evans's Hotel, wherein was situated that Cave of Harmony to which Clive Newcome was taken by his father under the guiding hand of Thackeray. The suggestion of taking the adjoining room indicates an actual or prospective increase of members, and the other matter for consideration, the election of a President, was of first-rate importance, for it resulted in that office being filled by Earl de Grey, whose influence did much to raise the new society from comparative obscurity to the position of being the leading body of architects in the kingdom and, eventually, in the Empire.

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It is clear that the year 1834 saw the inception of the Institute and its definite beginning, but it took nearly a twelvemonth to become fully equipped, and a notice to its members, signed by Donaldson and Goldicutt, marks its first meeting as a fully constituted body. They intimate on 3 June 1835, that "The opening meeting of the Institution will be held on Monday the 15th inst., at 8 o'clock in the Evening. The council have transmitted invitations to the President and principal members of the Antiquarian, Dilletanti, Civil Engineers, Geological, Asiatic, Royal and Architectural Societies, and also of the Royal Academy. Your attendance is particularly requested on this occasion and a Ticket is enclosed for your Visitor. A Copy of the Laws is also sent herewith for yourself, and one for your Friend, should you deem it desirable to furnish him with it." The notice proceeds to ask for cordial co-operation, and for the titles and scope of any papers which members might have in preparation or contemplation.

Here, then, we have the definite launching of the new society, of whose life-story the first fifty years is now to be briefly related. At its conclusion it will be found that a greater development and more momentous changes have occurred within our own memory than during the earlier period of its existence.

At this meeting the President, Earl de Grey, stated the objects of the new Institution, and pointed out the advantages which Architecture, as a national art, would derive from its foundation. Whether the noble President's expectations have been entirely fulfilled is perhaps doubtful. But this I think we may say—that the public do take a more intelligent interest in architecture than they did at that period, far as it still falls short of what we desire. We may then ask ourselves, or ask each other, how far the policy of the Institute during its first fifty years was calculated to confer advantages on Architecture as a national art, and how far the changed policy of the present day is likely to succeed in that object?

The President's opening remarks were followed by an address by the senior secretary, Mr. Donaldson. He announced that already 80 members had been enrolled, that communication had been established with several foreign Academies, and that the nucleus of an excellent Library had been formed. He proceeded to express a hope that prizes would be offered to young architects for original designs

and for measured drawings of old buildings, and that facilities would be afforded to students for foreign travel. He also mentioned the opportunities which would be given at the ordinary meetings of the Institute for discussing matters of scientific and antiquarian interest. In fact, he foreshadowed at that opening meeting many of the principal objects which the Institute has made its own.

The ambitions of its founders were indeed wide: the Institute was to have international relations; in the earlier records appear the names of more foreigners seeking honorary membership than of natives seeking ordinary membership. Already in the month succeeding the inaugural meeting, Donaldson, one of the secretaries, submitted a "Paper of Queries on all subjects of Architectural Investigation. Drawn up by the authority of the Council, for the purpose of distribution throughout the world." Matters of perhaps less portentous moment were not neglected, and we find subjects discussed which would be of interest to ourselves. At the last meeting of the session of 1835 Mr. Papworth, Vice-President, read a Paper, "On the benefit resulting to the Manufactures of a Country, from a well-directed cultivation of Architecture and of the Art of ornamental design, as an essential portion of its study." Might we not ask, with some trepidation, how far such a Paper might now be useful, after a lapse of nearly ninety years? At the same meeting Mr. Britton, whose books are still our own delight, offered "some observations upon the style of Domestic Architecture prevalent in England from the time of Edward 4th to that of James 1st," illustrated by a series of drawings of old mansions of that period furnished by Mr. Britton, and exhibited for two days, within stated hours, for the inspection of members and their friends. How different this method of illustration, and how far less efficient than our modern method of photographic slides! Yet it will be within the recollection of many of us that, in our early days, illustrations of a Paper, laboriously prepared, had to be examined after its conclusion, instead of being thrown upon the screen to elucidate each point as it occurred.

Another Paper, read in the following session, has an appeal to me which I cannot resist. It was a "Paper by George Gutch, Fellow, containing an account of the Original Drawings and Designs by Inigo Jones, Sir Christopher Wren and James Gibbs, Architects, preserved at Oxford." Unfortunately there were no Transactions published in those early

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years of the Institute, nor were there any architectural journals in existence, and so these valuable contributions are not available for reference.

Hitherto the notices of meetings had either been written or lithographed, but on 3 May 1836, they assumed the dignity of print, and the circular of that date announces that at the annual general meeting on Monday last the officers elected were—President, Earl de Grey; Vice-Presidents, Charles Barry, John B. Papworth, and P. F. Robinson; Secretaries, T. L. Donaldson and Charles Fowler; together with 7 members of Council.

The Institute was now well established. The first volume of its *TRANSACTIONS* was published in this year, the cover adorned with its well-known device or seal, the design of which has since been modified: I have found no mention of the original designer. It proceeded in November of the same year, 1836, to secure its status still further by applying for a Charter of Incorporation. On the 7th of that month the necessary resolution was passed at a special general meeting, and with almost incredible speed its terms were formulated, by-laws were drawn up, and on 6 February following His Majesty's Charter was laid on the table, the date of its grant being 11 January.

This Charter remained in force during the whole of the period now under review; it was supplemented a year or two after the close of that period. The by-laws first adopted form the foundation of those by which we are now governed, and no greater tribute than these facts could be paid to the wisdom and foresight of our founders.

It is interesting to note that the meeting at which the charter was laid on the table had been adjourned for a week on account of the death of Sir John Soane, one of the "rich men furnished with ability," who have generously endowed the Institute. He made the munificent donation of £750, which was commemorated by the foundation of the Soane Medalion, the gaining of which is the eager ambition of young architects.

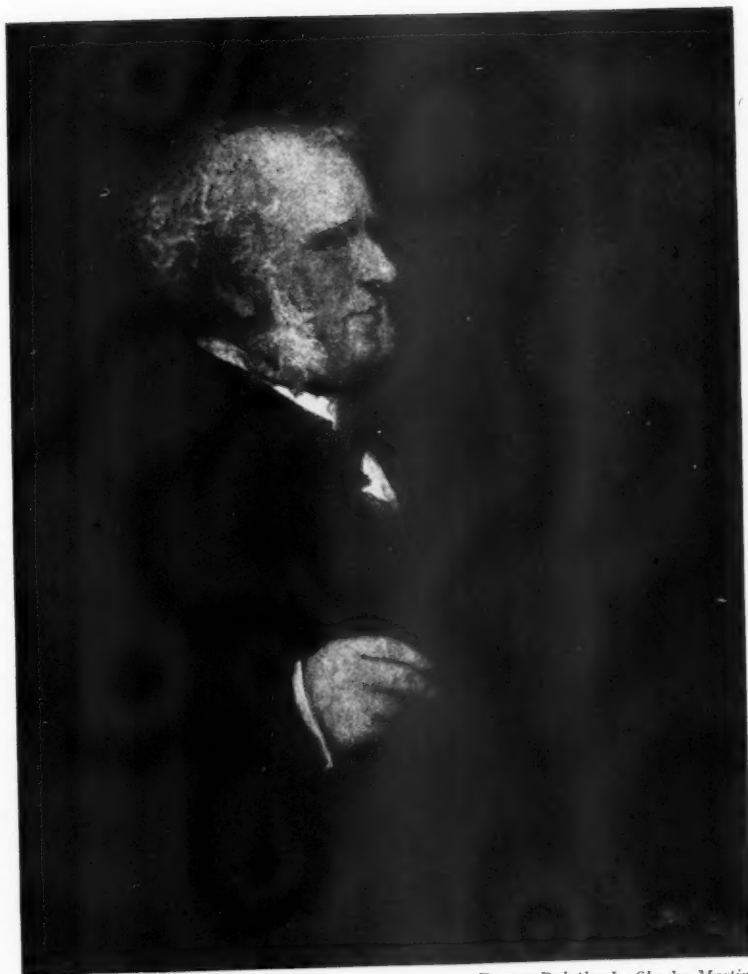
The Institute of British Architects was now an important and well recognised body, although it was not yet "Royal." The young Queen became its Patroness; its President was Earl de Grey, "an amateur of considerable cultivation and artistic taste," and a person of great influence in high quarters; most important of all, it included in its membership nearly all the leading architects of the time with the exception of the Royal Academicians.

According to the Report of the Council read on 22 May 1836, and prepared by the Vice-President, P. F. Robinson, whose contributions to the literature of architecture are well known, very severe reflections had been cast upon the architects of the time, and in order to counteract these and to advance the Art of Architecture, towards which it is implied that the Royal Academy was somewhat indifferent, the Institute had "burst into existence," a phrase conveying a sense of its rapid inception and assured success.

This Report is the first of the series which has been continued yearly ever since; and I know I shall have the sympathy of those, at any rate, who do not master the contents of these annual documents when I say that I have perused the gist at least of the whole series concerned with the first fifty years of the Institute. Let me relieve your apprehensions at once by saying that I am not going to give even the gist of each of these Reports, but the first one issued is entitled to a little consideration. Among other things it asserts that some years since a report of the House of Commons expressed in strong terms an opinion that no architect in this country could be found capable of carrying a great work into effect. In refutation of this injurious charge the Report adduces the fact that ninety-five designs had recently been submitted in the important competition for the new Houses of Parliament, designs which exhibited the talent of the day in a most favourable point of view. It congratulates the Institute upon the gaining of prizes by two of its members, Messrs. Barry and Railton, the former of whom has been selected as the successful candidate and his design adopted by the Legislature. Another competition mentioned is that for the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge, which had been won by Mr. Basevi, also a member of the Institute.

The foreign correspondence, opened with professors in every part of Europe, with its attendant benefits to students going abroad, is another matter dwelt on with satisfaction, and congratulations are expressed at the election of Mr. Donaldson as a corresponding member of the Institute in Paris and the Academy of Fine Arts in Parma.

A wish is expressed that models might be made of the designs then being exhibited for the new Houses of Parliament and that the Institute might look forward to possessing a museum "enriched with representations of the most celebrated buildings of ancient Greece and Rome, with those of our own



From a Painting by Charles Martin

PROFESSOR THOMAS L. DONALDSON
President 1863-65



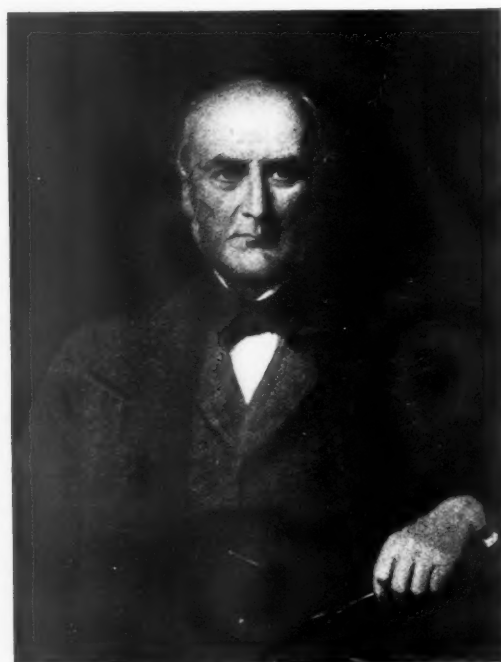
SIR CHARLES BARRY
Royal Gold Medallist 1850



CHARLES ROBERT COCKERILL
President, 1860 ; First Royal Gold Medallist, 1848



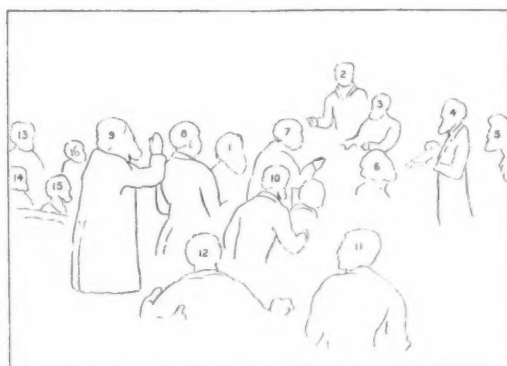
SIR JAMES PENNETHORNE
Royal Gold Medallist, 1865



SIR G. GILBERT SCOTT
President, 1873-76 ; Royal Gold Medallist, 1859



AN EXCITEMENT AT THE R.I.B.A.



1 F. Cockerell
2 J. Whichcord
3 Ch. Eastlake
4 Wm. White
5 J. P. Seddon

6 Prof. R. Kerr
7 Prof. Donaldson
8 Arthur Cates
9 Horace Jones
10 H. Dawson

11 E. Ferrey
12 The Silent Member
13 Ewan Christian
14 Prof. Roger Smith
15 R. Phené Spiers



Photograph kindly lent by Mr. F. G. Austin

EXHIBITION OF 1851

Sir Charles Fox, Owen Jones, Sir Joseph Paxton, Matthew Digby Wyatt, H.R.H. the Prince Consort.

country, made to the same scale." This aspiration, attractive as it is, has not been fulfilled.

I dwell upon this, the earliest Report of the Council, not only because it chronicles the progress of the Institute since its establishment in the year 1834 (as it says), a progress which has realised the fondest wishes of its warmest friends, but because it sets forth many of the objects had in view by those early leaders who, by their counsels, their knowledge of learning and their wise and eloquent instructions, gave its character to our Institute.

Mention is made of the excellent series of papers contributed by members and to the fact that the most important of them were to be published in the first volume of *TRANSACTIONS*, a publication which had a separate existence for many years, but which is now merged in the *Journal*. Attention is called to the collection of building stones then being formed

and its value in connection with the Lectures on Geology which the Council had established. Then comes a reference to the portraits which adorned the walls and a wish is expressed that they might be the commencement of a series—a wish that has happily been gratified, for the Institute's collection of portraits is probably unrivalled in any society of the kind. It is also announced that a medal is to be designed by Mr. Benjamin Wyon, intended as a prize medal to be given annually, whereas the Soane medal was to be given occasionally. The last matter of interest is the record of the death of the Librarian, Mr. James Ashley.

These, all too baldly stated, are the principal subjects of the first Report, and while some of them have come to naught the majority of them are still of vivid interest to the present generation.

The most important event during the next year,

1837 (apart from the Charter), was the transfer of the Institute to better rooms, an indication of its growth. The noble president, accompanied by the council, inspected several suites, and eventually that at 16, Lower Grosvenor Street, near Grosvenor Square, was taken; and there the headquarters remained for 22 years, until the removal to our present premises was made in 1859. It is not without interest to learn that a lecture on Dry Rot was given in the spring, and that during the summer a Register of Assistants seeking engagements was started.

During the following year, 1838, two matters engaged the attention of the Institute which are calculated to stir our hearts even at this distance of time. One was the proposed fusion of the old Architectural Society with the Institute, the other was the consideration of "the present defective practice of Competitions." The question of fusion seems to have been beset with the difficulties we know so well by experience. It roused a spirit very inimical to the "living peaceably in their habitations" of those concerned; and it serves to remind us of those qualities of wisdom and forbearance which are still necessary if the long-desired unity of the profession is to be achieved.

The consideration of the defective practice of competitions resulted in a report of the committee, issued in 1839, in which the well-known arguments, grievances and remedial suggestions were set forth. The same subject came up for consideration at intervals during the whole of the fifty years under review, and no solution of the problem was found, until by a process of evolution the present regulations were adopted. Let us hope they give the satisfaction which their long incubation deserves. There is no need to enter into the dreary details of this subject; there is but one gleam of humour to lighten its gloomy history, and that springs from the fact that in the year 1859 it was feared that unless the Institute interfered the custom would become established of constituting the competitors themselves as the jury for deciding the awards.

There is a considerable amount of interest, to those who have leisure, in reading the yearly reports and the much more frequent notices of meetings. Therein we can watch from week to week and from year to year the life of the Institute, uneventful or the whole, but marked from time to time by happenings worthy of special record. Well-known names flit across the pages. We learn at first hand how the Nestors of our youth were themselves once the

infants of the Institute. We realise how learned were our predecessors and how the fruits of their learning were consigned to the oblivion of the TRANSACTIONS. We hear a continual cry for papers, yet papers were forthcoming; as though this branch of activity were always on the verge of bankruptcy which was always averted by fresh funds being placed at its disposal.

One of the outstanding events of this early period was a visit, in the year 1843, of our patron the Prince Consort, or Prince Albert as he was then styled, to a meeting of the Institute. It was on 3 April, and the occasion was the distribution of prizes. Punctually to his time the Prince arrived, attended by two of his suite. He was received by the Vice-Presidents and the Honorary Secretaries, dressed, we may be sure, in the fashion dear to our fathers or grandfathers, in frock coats, low cut waistcoats, showing a vast amount of white shirt front, large stick-up collars into which their chins sank, and on which their side whiskers rested, collars wound round with long black neckties with a large bow in front. His Royal Highness was conducted to the Library, where the other members of Council were presented, and then a council was held at which he presided, and at which it was thought wise that only formal business should be transacted. This ended, he inspected the casts and models (the Prince was notoriously conscientious), and then he took the chair at the general meeting. In spite of the august atmosphere which must have been generated the ordinary routine was followed. The minutes were read, some donations announced, and Mr. Donaldson, secretary for foreign correspondence, read several letters from Milan, Coblenz and Paris, presumably in the languages current at those places.

Then followed the distribution of prizes, which were less in number than they are now. The Soane Medallion was the first, the subject being a Princely Palace as described by Bacon. Mr. Charles Fowler, honorary secretary, read Bacon's description, and the winner, Mr. A. Johnson, was presented to the Prince and received the medal from his hands—or was it, as was sometimes the manner then, from the less overwhelming hands of one of the suite? In like manner, whichever it was, Mr. E. Chamberlain, of Leicester [provincial members, please note], received the Institute Medal for his essay on the subject, "Are synchronism and uniformity of style essential to beauty and propriety in architecture?" and a medal of merit was awarded to Mr. J. W.

Papworth. Mr. Papworth we many of us knew, and anyone can get to know his literary work ; but who were the medallists, Mr. A. Johnson, and Mr. E. Chamberlain, of Leicester ? After the prizes a communication was read by the secretary "On the modes usually adopted in forming foundations in the city of Venice," and with that the ordinary proceedings ended. But so special an occasion demanded special thanks to the Royal Chairman, and these were fitly expressed by Mr. Charles Barry. Thus far, it may be gathered from the contemporary report, the Prince had made no observation, but in reply to Mr. Barry's thanks he broke the silence of his visit. "Gentlemen, it gives me pleasure to have this opportunity of meeting you." Thereafter the assembly dissolved, and the opportunity of meeting the Institute again was never revived.

But the interest of Royalty in the affairs of the Institute was awakened again three years later, no doubt through the good offices of Earl de Grey, and on 27 April 1846 the gift of a Royal Gold Medal was announced. The medal was intended as an encouragement to young architects by a competition in design, and the subject set for the first competition, which was held in 1847, was the very suitable and practical one of premises for the Institute itself. Eleven designs were submitted, but they missed the mark so entirely, they were, most of them, so grandiose and expensive—in short, they so widely disregarded the conditions imposed, that the medal was not awarded.

This fiasco sealed the fate of the junior members of the profession in regard to the Medal, and it was decided to award it in future not to the immature work of the young, but in recognition of the actual achievements of the older men. The royal donor agreed to the change and, accordingly, in the following year, 1848, the first recipient of the Royal Gold Medal was Charles Robert Cockerell. The names of the distinguished men upon whom it has been bestowed since that day may be seen in the *Kalendar*, and it is needless to mention them here. Nor is it necessary to pursue the history of the Medal in detail, it may be found fully recorded by our late Editor in the *JOURNAL* of 25 June 1921. It is enough for the present purpose to mention its foundation and the rather curious but happy change in its purpose which circumstances dictated.

It is impossible within the limits of a Paper to which an audience may be expected to listen during one evening, to mention some noteworthy event in

every year of the Institute's history, and we must pass lightly onwards, only recording a few matters that strike the fancy. Such, for instance, are the congratulations given in 1847 to Mr. Barry on the completion of the House of Lords : and the model exhibited in 1848 of the scaffolding used in the erection of Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square. Then came the shadow cast before the coming event of the Great Exhibition of 1851. The Report for 1850 takes high-flown credit for a donation of £50 from the Institute towards that remarkable movement, which, "under the enlightened direction and zealous patronage of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort," was to achieve a revolution in the arts and industries of the world ; a movement which "may lead us to hope," says the Report, "that ere long, England may vie with France and Italy in wedding the refinements of colour and material and the attractive effects of a less sparing embellishment to forms, which Greece might have approved, and which Rome or Mediæval art could not have excelled." It would be an interesting theme for discussion as to how far these hopes have been realised in either of the countries named.

The enlightened direction and zealous patronage of his Royal Highness in the building of the Exhibition is recorded in an interesting print (kindly lent by Mr. F. G. Austin) of the committee responsible for the Exhibition Building. In it he is represented as examining a drawing submitted and expounded to him by Sir Joseph Paxton, with the respectful support of Mr. Matthew Digby Wyatt, Mr. Owen Jones and Sir Charles Fox.

The building of the 1851 Exhibition became the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and the same spirit of educational progress which animated its designers followed it to its new quarters, for we find the Institute commending the directors of the enterprise for their spirited conduct in getting Signor G. Abbati, of Naples, to produce a facsimile of a Pompeian dwelling beneath its roof and in procuring casts of celebrated sculpture ; and a year or two later the courts of the Crystal Palace were recommended to students as admirable objects of study.

The year of the Great Exhibition also saw the establishment of that beneficent institution the Architects' Benevolent Society, which has done so much to relieve the hard lot of necessitous architects.

Then came in 1855 the first stirring of the waters in relation to one of the most important activities of the Institute, for on 3 December, in the course of a

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discussion on a Diploma in Architecture, a memorial was read from the Architectural Association asking for the establishment of an Examination. The subject was considered by the Council from time to time, and five years elapsed before, on 25 June 1860, a resolution was passed in favour of affording an opportunity of a Voluntary Professional Examination. Two more years were needed for developing the idea, but at length, in May 1862, Regulations for the Voluntary Architectural Examination were printed and issued. For twenty years the system of voluntary examinations was pursued with varying success. Sometimes the number of candidates was a subject of congratulation, at others it was so small that no examination was held. The twelfth and last was held in June 1881, and on 28 March 1882 the first compulsory Examination of candidates for the Associateship took place, and was "attended with unlooked-for success." This definite land-mark in the history of the Institute was established two years within the limit of the half century assigned to the story I am telling.

The policy of the Institute, founded on its early experience of the failure of such lectures as it had promoted, as well as of "a school of Art, accessorial to Architecture"—an event hardly to be deplored in so far as the interests of euphony are concerned—its policy was definitely opposed to its becoming an instrument for teaching young architects. It was content in directing their studies, in aiding them with its ever increasing Library and in exciting their emulation by the offer of prizes and medals. From this policy it has not swerved, and in view of the still wider fields of administration which present conditions require it to cover, it is not likely to swerve.

The voluntary examination of its own members was not the first experience of the Institute in that direction, for already, in 1856, it had been appointed, under the Metropolitan Building Act, the examining body for the District Surveyors established by that Act. This consummation was achieved largely through the influence of Sir William Tite, M.P., and the Institute still continues to exercise the powers then conferred.

In the year 1859 occurred the first noteworthy break in the personality of our founders, for on 14 November of that year died Earl de Grey, who had been President since the founding of the Institute five-and-twenty years before. To him we owe a great debt of gratitude, for not only did his con-

nection shed lustre on our proceedings, but through his instrumentality it was that the Institute achieved almost at once its high position among societies of the like kind. To his good offices we may also attribute the early granting of our charter.

Under by-law 23 of the first issue the President could only hold office for two years in succession, but the by-law had been periodically suspended in order to retain the presence of Earl de Grey, and since his death it has, with one or two exceptions, been acted upon ever since. Moreover, Earl de Grey's successors in the chair have, with the exception of Mr. Beresford Hope, all been practising architects, men who have made a mark more or less legible in their profession considered apart from their activities within the Institute. Those who come within our cognizance on this occasion are twelve, and it is worth while to mention their names in order to show that the Institute has maintained a high standard in selecting its head. They are C. R. Cockerell, Sir William Tite, Thomas L. Donaldson, A. J. B. Beresford Hope, Thomas Henry Wyatt, Sir Gilbert Scott, Charles Barry, John Whichcord, G. E. Street, Sir Horace Jones and Ewan Christian. In connection with this high office the desire for distinguished men has been gratified, a desire which, in relation to the Council itself, led to a suggestion in 1877 that it should be composed of the most distinguished members of the Institute. Whether that wider desire has also been regularly gratified, who shall say? Doubtless the members of all councils, recent or otherwise, have considered that it has been, and if any outsiders have harboured doubts they must have been consoled by the reflection that with the spread of democratic government it was wise that all members should be represented, whether distinguished or not.

The one exception to the rule of electing architects to the Chair, Mr. Beresford Hope, left his mark upon the Institute, for it was during his term of office, and in consequence of his influence, that the epithet "Royal" was added to our title, and since the year 1866 we have been known as the *Royal Institute of British Architects*.

It was in that same year that another significant change was made, that of appointing a paid secretary. Hitherto the work had been done by two honorary secretaries, while a third devoted his attention to foreign correspondence. But owing to the increase of membership, and the ever-widening field of the Institute's influence, the work became too

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onerous. An assistant secretary was therefore appointed with a salary, the two honorary secretaries being retained, one for foreign correspondence and one for home duties. This arrangement was gradually modified, and eventually the position became what it is to-day, with a paid secretary to run the administrative machine and an honorary secretary to do the work usually allotted to those distinguished gentlemen.

The Institute is to be congratulated upon the change, and upon the choice of the two gentlemen who filled the office in succession during its first half-century—namely, Mr. Charles Eastlake and Mr. William H. White. Their zeal was indefatigable. I doubt if any of us remember the first, but many of us do the second, and will not be surprised to hear from Mr. Northover, the late Editor of the JOURNAL, that Mr. White and he often spent a large part of the night after some important meeting in dealing with the business arising therefrom. Mr. Northover says that “he and I often worked together till two, three, or four in the morning, and turned up promptly at the regulation office hour after three or four hours’ rest.”

This is the last of the important constitutional changes which occurred during the first half-century of our existence. The close of that period found the Institute following much the same path as it had hitherto trodden. It was at once a learned society and one to further the interests of architects and, through them, those of Architecture. It represented, as the Report for 1872 said, the interests of Architecture both as a Profession and an Art. But its tendencies were rather oligarchical. Associates had no vote. Its active members were all London men. Its policy was against the affiliation of societies in the provinces, although it was prepared to bestow a benevolent interest upon them. Into the changes which have occurred since the close of the period under review there is no occasion to go this evening. They began with the granting of the Supplemental Charter in 1887, and we may say with truth that we are pursuing to-day the same objects that the Institute has always pursued, but with wider and more comprehensive methods.

Among the matters which from time to time engaged the attention of the Institute or its council in its early years, and which have resulted in pronouncements of the greatest value to architects and are calculated to maintain the high status of the profession, are the conduct of competitions, the re-

putation of commissions from tradesmen, the rules of professional practice, the scope of an architect's duties together with the scale of his remuneration, and the conditions governing building contracts. In fields less closely connected with the legal aspect of our duties may be mentioned such matters as the conservation of ancient buildings and hints to workmen in their restoration. Other matters upon which the Institute took a sensible view, but which did not reach a definite decision, were artistic copyright and the ownership of drawings. It is obvious that however learned the Institute was in its early days, however much interested in its foreign correspondence, in endeavouring to collect every known edition of Vitruvius or in the refinements of design in the Parthenon, it had the practical welfare of its members at heart.

Outside its own domestic concerns it kept an eye on matters of general interest connected with architecture. It tendered advice as to the royal tombs in Westminster Abbey; at the request of the Government in 1846 it gave its opinion as to the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington on the top of the archway into the Green Park, which opinion was that it was “unsatisfactory and its position there most objectionable”; it endeavoured to preserve some of the amenities of London which were threatened by improvements or new buildings; it concerned itself with the City churches, with the preservation of ancient buildings in country towns, with the Palestine Exploration Fund, and the excavations at Nineveh. It had something to say about the Thames Embankment, the width of streets and lines of communication. It condemned utterly and successfully the idea of preserving the exhibition buildings of 1862, when once their purpose was served. In 1873 a Parliamentary Committee recommended to the House of Commons that the architectural design for the new street from Trafalgar Square to the Thames Embankment should be submitted for approval to the Council of the Institute, and in 1878, under Act of Parliament, the Council reported on the architectural elevations submitted to them, expressed their opinion and suggested alterations.

On one occasion, in 1859, the Institute, leaving the fields of art and learning, ventured into those of politics and presented a petition to Parliament praying that the elective franchise might be conferred on its members as a simple act of justice, seeing that the Government had in view the bestowing of it upon

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other learned bodies. But learning, as such, save that resident in Universities, has not been held a sufficient qualification for the vote. Among the activities of the Institute must also be mentioned, although there is no need to enter into their details, the establishment of useful conferences of architects and of pleasurable conversaziones.

Passing for a moment from the Institute as a whole to some of its individual members, we may well come back to those "rich men furnished with ability," who gave to its funds. Some of them presented shares in the Architectural Union Company; their names are recorded, but not emblazoned. The



GEORGE EDMUND STREET
President, 1881; Royal Gold Medallist, 1874

memory of others is preserved in the prizes instituted by their generosity or in remembrance of them. In 1863 a fund of £1,000 was collected as a memorial to Augustus Welby Pugin, and a travelling studentship was founded as the result. There is no need to record in this place either the objects of the foundation or the names of those who have been advantaged by it, but I may be allowed, perhaps, to mention one fact—that nearly fifty years ago, in 1873, the annual report mentions that "the Pugin Studentship was awarded to Mr. Aston Webb,

his drawings being perhaps the most elaborate and carefully finished set that had ever been sent in since the Studentship was founded."

In the same year, 1873, died Sir William Tite, M.P., who had been twice President and had taken for many years an active part in the life of the Institute and who had rendered it noteworthy help in his capacity as Member of Parliament. He bequeathed £1,000 to our funds, which was devoted to the foundation of the prize which still bears his name. The Godwin Bursary, the Owen Jones Studentship and the Grissell Gold Medal are the other prizes which were founded during the first half-century of our existence—not a bad record, considering the modest fortunes (if any) which the pursuit of architecture produces.

There is one other of our institutions which must be mentioned before the close of this story, and that is our Library. It has been referred to incidentally, but it is a subject which appears in almost every report, and pages are filled with the record of donations to it. There is again no need to give the details of its history, even did time permit, for they have been fully set forth in a Paper read before the Institute by our Librarian, Mr. Dircks, and published in the JOURNAL for 4 and 18 December 1921. The Institute Library is recognised as the finest collection of architectural books, manuscripts and drawings which the world possesses. However much we may differ as to the aims, objects and policy of the Institute, or as to the efficiency with which they have been carried out, we can all agree that the Library alone would justify its inception and its existence.

Such is the history in outline of the first half-century of the Institute. But enough has been said to show the ability of those who founded it and fostered it and entered into the fullness of its success. They have left us a noble heritage, a heritage of practical knowledge of deep learning and of high endeavour. It is a heritage we must not waste, nor shall we. Rather will it urge us to increase it, and by facing modern conditions in a modern spirit leave to our children more than we received from our fathers. Yet while we grapple with problems of great practical interest, let us not forget the traditions which cling to us, traditions of learning, of high-mindedness, of gentle manners. So shall we worthily emulate those famous men, our founders, leaders of the people, wise and eloquent in their instructions.

Discussion

THE PRESIDENT, MR. PAUL WATERHOUSE, M.A., IN THE CHAIR

The PRESIDENT : We have with us to-night Mr. Worthington, who is President of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Worthington is a name which is very well known to us, as representing two generations of architects, two of the younger generation having been members of our Council in recent years ; and it would be of great interest to us if he would be so good as to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Gotch.

Mr. W. B. WORTHINGTON (President, Institution of Civil Engineers) : It is not an easy matter for me to make a speech on a subject about which I know very little, but it gives me the greatest possible pleasure to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Gotch for his most interesting address. It brought to me more news than probably it conveyed to most of you, but it must have been of great interest to members of your Institute.

I noticed that in the invitations extended to the opening meeting of the Institute, in 1835, about 17 years after the first meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers—of which I have the honour to be President this year—the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers was invited, indicating the pleasant relationship between the two great professions which obtained at that time, which I hope exists to-day, and which I hope may be even closer in the future. The President of the Institution of that day was James Walker, F.R.S., who succeeded Thomas Telford as President at the beginning of the year in which your Institute was opened. Telford had been President 15 years, and Walker remained President for 10 years ; he was succeeded by Sir John Rennie, who was President three years. Since then no president has remained in office for more than two years, and he sits usually for only one year.

There is a matter I would like to mention, and that is the great pleasure I recently had in being associated with your President in judging some drawings sent in by younger engineers in fulfilment of the conditions of a prize given by the late Charles Hawksley, with a view to encourage young engineers to keep their designs within some reasonable distance of being offensive to architects. Hawksley, as you know, was remarkable for the excellence of the buildings which he put up all over the country in connection with many great waterworks of which he was the engineer. He felt very strongly that something ought to be done to teach engineers how not to do what there are always plenty of architectural critics to criticise. I know the subject is a thorny one, and I shall not occupy my short allowance of time in speaking further on it.

I would like to mention another illustration of the pleasant collaboration between engineers and archi-

tecs, although it goes back beyond my own personal memory. My father was the resident engineer at the making of the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway, and Joseph Locke and Errington were the engineers. Sir William Tite was associated with Errington in designing the stations for this line, and if there is a more beautiful station in England than Sir William Tite's at Lancaster Castle, I do not know where to find it. It is just what a building for that sort of place ought to be. It harmonises with the Castle and with the church tower above it, and, altogether, fits into the town in a way that railway stations generally do not.

There is another little incident of the same sort connected with the same railway. When the line was opened my father was engineer and manager. My uncle, Thomas Worthington, who was a member of your Institute and was known to some of you, was travelling at the time in Italy. My father wrote to him that he was building a locomotive works at Carlisle and was going to put up a bell tower, and asked him for a sketch of what he thought the top of it should be like. The result was the plain square brick tower, with a sloping Italian roof, which strikes every person who looks on the right-hand side of the line as he goes from Lancaster to Carlisle. I mention that merely as an instance of collaboration between the two professions.

I have the greatest pleasure in proposing that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Gotch for his very interesting paper.

Mr. JOHN SLATER [F.] : It is with the greatest pleasure I rise to second the vote of thanks to my old friend, Mr. Gotch, for his most interesting paper. He has said that the changes which occurred in this Institute in the last fifty years are enormously greater than those which occurred in the first half-century. That is inevitable, essential and right. As the poet says :

" New occasions bring new duties,

Time makes old things seen uncouth."

No institution, no society, can hope to preserve its vitality unless it moves with the times, widens the basis of its operations, and increases its activities. I sometimes wonder what those men who were busy with the affairs of the Institute over fifty years ago would say if they were to come back now ; if, for instance, the first paid secretary, Eastlake, whom I remember, though Mr. Gotch does not, were to come back and see how far-flung the activities of the Institute are : the Standing Committees, the examinations, the active interest which the Associates take in the Institute, and the work generally that is being done. He might have mingled feelings ; he might be glad to see the progress which has been made, and he might thank his

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stars that his lot had been cast in less exacting times! I think I am the oldest member of the Institute taking any active part—though a very small one—in the work of the Institute who did so within its first half-century. When I go into the rooms upstairs—and I may say I never go there without regretting that we have abandoned the use of that noble room for our meetings, and that we have been banished to these nether regions, which, I think, do not fit the dignity of the Institute—when I go upstairs, those rooms are for me peopled with ghosts. My acquaintance with the Presidents of the Institute whom Mr. Gotch has mentioned was only a slight one. I remember Professor Donaldson, though not in the Presidential Chair, with his clear-cut face and noble head. We have an excellent portrait of him in the Institute. I was present at the dinner given by the Institute which was honoured by the presence of King Edward when he was Prince of Wales, at which Donaldson was present. I also remember once seeing Sir William Tite in the chair. After 1879, when I became an Associate, I was a fairly regular attendant at the meetings. I remember one very crowded meeting in 1880, when Mr. E. C. Robins read a paper on Sanitary Science in its Relation to Civil Architecture. All the well-known sanitarians were present: Captain Douglas Galton, Rogers Field, Dr. Richardson, Dr. Corfield, and many others. They aired their views in the discussion to so great an extent that they had to adjourn the meeting. In connection with the desirability, in those days, of instilling some of the principles of sanitary science into the minds of architects, I may mention one incident which I know to be true. An architect of some standing built a house for a client, in the country; and after it was finished and had been occupied two or three months he said to an architect friend, "You will remember that house I built for So-and-so?" "Yes." "Well, the man has had the impudence to write to me to-day wanting me to go down because, he says, there is something wrong with his drain! I wrote and told him to call in his plumber!" Nowadays, however much we may think it desirable, we should hardly dare to do that.

The year 1881 was a memorable year for the Institute; it was memorable to me because in that year I read my first paper, on Electric Lighting. I mention it to show what an enormous distance we have travelled in those 40 years. I was extremely anxious to show the new electric light in operation. Mr. Boyd was engaged in rebuilding the premises which afterwards became the Maddox Street Galleries, and which the Institute has recently purchased. The Otto Gas Engine people fixed up one of their gas engines for me. We had a motor, and took the leads in at one of the windows of an upper room, and just managed to get the current started at 5 o'clock on the day the paper was to be read. The engine and the current were so erratic that I had

an arc lamp installed in the dome, where I placed a man to regulate the carbons with his hands, in order that he might keep the light going. I think that was the first occasion on which any of the Swan lamps were shown here. They were lent to me by Mr. Spottiswoode. The year 1881 is memorable also for the contest for the presidency which occurred between George Edmund Street and Horace Jones. I was present at the meeting when the scrutineers announced the result of the voting, and I remember the cheers when it transpired that Street had been elected by a majority of, I think, two. Someone was waiting with a cab for the result of the election, and after the announcement at once hurried off, and in ten minutes Street had arrived and was inducted into the chair by Whichcord. Alas! as we know, the new President died within a very few months of his election, to the irreparable loss of the Institute. It is a cause for the deepest regret that we have no portrait of the most eminent Victorian architect to adorn our walls. Street was succeeded by Horace Jones, who had a "corporation" typical of a Corporation official.

Then came Ewan Christian, who was architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, a man of the highest honour, and almost quixotically punctilious on any point of professional conduct. I'Anson followed, and though I think his term of office was just outside the period we are considering, I may perhaps be permitted to recall one of the most amusing incidents I ever saw upstairs. Charles Garnier, who had been awarded the Gold Medal for that year, came over from France to receive it. I'Anson, after making a speech on his achievements, placed the cord round his neck, and then Garnier, to his utter amazement, mounted the platform and kissed him on both cheeks.

There are many members who used to frequent the rooms upstairs and of whom I have vivid recollections. There was Burges, a little short-sighted man with a caustic humour, who used to vary the monotony of his official life by inviting his friends to come to his office in Buckingham Street, Strand, and indulge in a rat-hunt. When, at the Council, a discussion arose on the next recipient of the Gold Medal—it was soon after the establishment of the Wimbledon Rifle competitions—Burges suggested we should shoot for it. He was simply saturated with Gothic tradition and lore, and I remember being told a little story illustrating this by one of the people present when the incident occurred. A number of architects were visiting a country church, Burges amongst them, and he said to Octavius Hansard "I cannot quite see the detail of that moulding up there; I wish you would sketch the profile of it for me." He did so and gave it to Burges to look at, who said "I don't know what it is, but I am perfectly certain it is not that!"

And there was Professor Kerr, a very able man, and one of the best speakers I ever heard. It may

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not be known to many here that Kerr was the author of a book which is not in our Library. It was called *The Newleaf Discourses*, and if anybody hears of a copy I strongly advise him to buy it, because it contains many interesting and amusing skits on the things which used to go on in the old meeting room. There were William White, Charles Fowler, Henry Currey, Arthur Cates, a man with a somewhat forbidding exterior, but when you got within the rind which enclosed him you found him to be one of the kindest-hearted of men. He was an ideal chairman of committees. All his dogmatism vanished when he was in the chair; he gave every opportunity to the people who were speaking, and he carried the business through in a manner which we might very well emulate now. Many other names occur to me, and each of them, I suppose, to most of those I see around me to-night, is merely *nomini umbra*; they were men of high integrity in their profession, who did their best to promote the interests of the Institute.

I happen to have in my possession a very interesting record of those early days. It is a photograph of a drawing made by Phené Spiers, bearing the title "An Excitement at the R.I.B.A." It is a very clever sketch; many of the likenesses are extremely close, and I certainly thought that the Institute must have a copy of it. But when I asked the Librarian he said he believed there had been a copy at one time but it had not been visible for many years. As I think this little sketch is well worth framing and preserving, I ask you to be good enough to accept it for the Institute and to keep it among your archives.

Before I sit down I would like to say a word or two to the younger generation of architects whom I see around me. Mr. Gotch has told us that we have, in this old Institute of ours, a goodly heritage. It is approaching its centenary, but its future, gentlemen, lies in your hands, to make or mar. In a body like ours there must be differences of opinion, and I would pray you to remember that the Institute as a whole is bigger than any of its parts or than any parties of its members. It looks, perhaps, to-day as if we were approaching the safe haven of—no! I will not let any words escape me which might savour of partisan shibboleths. May I say that we hope in the early future it may be said of this Institute that "None is for party, but all are for the State"? If we approach our difficulties and our differences in that spirit, I am confident that, as the Institute has a past full of high ideals, noble aspirations and honourable traditions, so the future will be one of increasing usefulness, wider activities, and greater prosperity. May I conclude, in the words of the old school toast: "Floreat domus et esto perpetua!"

Mr. WILLIAM WOODWARD [F.]: Mr. John Slater can go back a very little time before my own experience of this Institute. Seeing in this room to-

night such men as Mr. Slater and my old friend Mr. Maurice B. Adams, I took the trouble to look at the *Kalendar*, to find out on what dates they, respectively, became members of the Institute. But before I say anything further, may I congratulate Mr. Gotch on the very interesting paper he has read to-night? I thought I knew a great deal about the Royal Institute, but he has told us of a number of little matters which had escaped me, although I have been a diligent student of the work of the Royal Institute.

I find that Mr. Slater became an Associate in 1879, and that Mr. Colcutt became a Fellow in the same year; that Mr. Atkin-Berry became an Associate in 1879, and I became an Associate in that year too. Whether or not we had an idea that there would soon be an entrance examination I do not know, but that was the year when the examination was instituted.

Mr. Gotch has reminded us that in those years the Associates had not a vote. I agree with all that Mr. Slater said about the room upstairs, and I would like to go back to it for the meetings. Mr. Roe, Mr. Julian, Mr. Langston, Mr. Monckton and myself determined we would have a vote, and we got it. Formerly we had been allowed to listen to the speeches, and even to speak, but not to vote. I very well remember Professor Kerr, Octavius Hansard and William White, the church architect. And I perfectly well remember, desirous as I was—and still am—of saying something at the meetings, that if Kerr and Hansard and White were in the room, I knew it was all up with my chance of having a word. They would talk for weeks, if it were allowed, instead of hours.

I have seen and heard every President of this Institute from Sir William Tite, in 1870, down to the gentleman who now so worthily occupies the presidential chair, Mr. Paul Waterhouse. I remember William Henry White, Charles Eastlake, and the Cockerells. Mr. Northover has sent to me—because he was an executor of William Henry White—a letter I wrote in 1886—which runs as follows:

"DEAR MR. WHITE,—Thank you for the cutting which you returned to me.

"At the moment I do not see that I could do more than I have *re* the Metropolitan Board; some say that I have done enough in the direction of Spring Gardens, for the present at all events.

"I must be allowed to congratulate you on your well-written letters to *The Times* on the subject of Royal Academic Architectural Education. They should have been followed up by others from some of the so-called leaders of the profession—and instead of Mr. George Aitchison writing to *The British Architect* that you wrote the letters without the authority, etc., of the R.I.B.A., he should have written to *The Times* notwithstanding the position he holds at the R.A.—sup-

porting the views you so well stated; but really I am often disgusted at the want of spirit and pluck shown by the profession. They either from indifference or downright ignorance—mostly the latter—let anything pass except their 5 per cent., and if the growing tendency to take work out of the architects' hands and put it into those of the builders and upholsterers continues, and gradually the architect disappears, the architects have themselves chiefly to blame.

"If there is anything said at the R.I.B.A. when we meet about your letters you may count on the support of—Yours very truly, WM. WOODWARD."

It is a delight to go over these reminiscences. Mr. Slater has mentioned name after name of men I knew, among others my old master, Arthur Cates, of whom he has given a complete portrait. He was one of the kindest-hearted men who ever lived, but, if you did not know him, apparently one of the most austere.

I trust this Institute will proceed on the lines which Mr. Slater has mentioned, and I feel that, fifty years hence, it will have merited all the encomiums which Mr. Gotch has bestowed on it for its work during the first half-century of the R.I.B.A.

Mr. MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.]: The unexpected often happens, but Mr. Gotch surprised me by going back to the Septuagint in reviewing the Institute's springtide. It is not quite easy to apply the Biblical text at the head of his Paper concerning "Rich men living peaceably in their own habitations," because architects are not proverbially rich or placid folk. Records show that our Alma Mater has not always proved to be a "peaceable habitation." Family affairs in Conduit Street are occasionally distraught by differences of opinion, perhaps not about riches or balances at the bank. But disputations add to the zest of life and afford perhaps some relief from the mundane monotony of existence.

No mention is made in the very comprehensive Paper with which we have been favoured to-night of a circumstance incidental to the first fifty years of the R.I.B.A. The reason for this omission is probably owing to this matter being in a sense extraneous to our household accounts. I allude to the continued refusal of certain eminent architects to join our chartered Society. Some thought this exclusive habit arose from an air of superiority; others said "Architecture is an art and not a profession, nor a trade union." Be that as it may, among those who thus held aloof a few subsequently relaxed to some extent by accepting the R.I.B.A. Gold Medal. William Butterfield, however, with spartan relentlessness, received his decoration by deputy. William Burges, as Mr. Slater told us, said "the medal ought to be shot for by the Artists' Corps." If my memory is not at fault there was always more or less a comic side to these annual functions.

Draughtsmanship of the Victorian period is now al-

luded to as "a convention," and it has become the fashion to disparage it as out of date. No apology is needed for such thorough and sincere work. Pugin initiated the movement and distinction was added by the masterly directness of the pen and ink drawings of G. E. Street, in the heyday of the Gothic revival. So much has been said upon architectural drawing that little remains to be added about the subject in this place. However, the remarks recently made by Professor Rothenstein call for a few words in respect to the drawings of Norman Shaw, to whom I owe so much. The lecturer told us that, good artist as Shaw was, his perspectives "would scarcely be recognised by a student of art to be contemporaneous with the work of Watts, Burne-Jones or William Morris." Let me remind "students of Art," in order properly to estimate the particular quality of architectural draughtsmanship and contemporary illustrations generally at that time, it is essential to recognise what happened when copper engraving, woodblocks for publication and lithography gave place to the camera. In 1871 photolithography ousted transfer lithography, drawing on the stone and wood engraving. The transformation thus brought about was almost immediate and architects soon learned to produce pen and ink line drawings which could be reproduced direct to any required size by camera reduction. No longer was the intervention of the wood engraver or the lithographic draughtsman a necessity; consequently the technique of architectural detail was insured. Of course there were poor draughtsmen then as now. The main point I wish to emphasise is that limitations had to be observed because the photolithographic process required a distinct handling and style of execution owing to the need of well-defined outlines, coupled with a moderate use of cross hatching for tones, tints or shadows and for surroundings to the picture, because triangular or acute V-shaped inter-spaces were liable to clog up in printing off copies. The early seventies clearly show the limitations of photolithography which has been superseded by line process zinc blocks. In the first volumes of Blackburn's *Academy Notes* you will see that oil paintings and water-colours had to be redrawn in black and white line for process reproduction. Nowadays, drawings of all sorts and sizes are copied readily, so that draughtsmen observe no restraint and indulge in extravagancies under the claim of "texture." Sloppy, unworkmanlike work is consequently encouraged. Line drawing among architects has gone out of fashion, and not a single pen and ink example is hung this year in the Architectural Room of the Royal Academy. Formerly Academy rules excluded coloured exhibits by architects, only black and white drawings being permitted.

Before concluding, I notice that Mr. Gotch referred to the days when the Institute published no TRANSACTIONS and when there were no professional journals,

no reports of papers of that period being preserved, and I seriously direct attention to the urgent need of an up-to-date handy catalogue of our unique Library and Collection of Drawings, apart from the catalogue in the Library, which is kept up to date. I am not unmindful of the expense but am sure the money would be well spent. We cannot afford to be parsimonious over so obvious an obligation to our status and to our members. A grant made now by the Council would probably enable such a catalogue to be produced by the end of the year. At present the only available handy list of architectural books is that produced in 1909 by the joint Society of Manchester Architects of the volumes of this class in Manchester and Salford. It is far from complete, of course. Catalogues of works and manuscripts in the R.I.B.A. Library were printed in 1838, 1846, and 1865. Supplements appeared in 1871, 1874, 1877, and 1899. The current catalogue treasured by our older members was published in 1888, at the sole cost of David Brandon who, on resigning office as Senior Vice-President in 1885, made a donation of £320; therefore this useful "Brandon Donation" catalogue marks the end of the period described for us by Mr. Gotch. This can still be purchased with the 1899 Supplement. In the meantime annual supplementary detached lists have appeared, except during the war. They are too casual and get lost; and, besides, the majority of our subscribers possess no previous catalogue to which to attach these yearly instalments. The value of the Library is not appreciated and the whole thing is most unsatisfactory. I speak from experience; the need of a catalogue, such as members of the Institute ought to have on their bookshelves for constant reference is obvious.

THE PRESIDENT: My period of reminiscence is just clear of the time-limit allowed to-night, so I shall not burden you with stories about the Institute. We have had a delightful evening, and the reminiscences of old friends of the Institute have added to our enjoyment of it. In addition to putting the vote of thanks to the meeting I should like to thank Mr. Gotch personally for the great pleasure he has given us.

MR. GOTCH: I have to thank you for the very kind way in which you have listened to this record of the past. There is nothing very exciting in it, though I can assure you it has required a good deal of worry and time to search out the records. But, after all, as Shakespeare says, "A jest's prosperity lies in the ear of him that hears it; never in the tongue of him that makes it," and so it is with the Paper I have given to-night. I thank you very much for the way in which you have listened to it.

Review

THE ORIGIN OF THE CRUCIFORM PLAN OF CAIRENE MADRASAS. By K. A. C. Creswell [Hon. A.R.I.B.A.]. Reprinted from the *Bulletin de l'Institut français d'archéologie orientale*, Cairo, 1922.

When the Royal Institute of British Architects elected Mr. K. A. C. Creswell an Honorary Associate, his name was probably only known to those who have made a study of the Muhammadan architecture of the Near East. The present publication adds to his reputation as a painstaking and erudite writer in this field, and illustrates his careful methods of research. His *Brief Chronology of the Muhammadan Monuments of Egypt* was a remarkable production for anyone who was not originally trained as an architect or an archaeologist (indeed, any trained architect or archaeologist might be proud to have compiled so valuable a record), and he now embarks on a new venture in this closely reasoned theory of the origin of the cruciform plan of the Cairene madrasa, illustrated not only by admirable photographs of his own taking, but also by a series of accurate plans, measured and drawn by himself, of a very interesting series of buildings.

A madrasa is a theological college or school, where are taught one or more of the four "doctrines" of Islam. The first madrasas were founded in India early in the eleventh century. Gradually these schools spread westward, reaching Syria early in the twelfth century. They were introduced into Egypt by Saladin, and represent the only non-military buildings of importance due to that great soldier, though his fortresses are familiar enough. Hitherto it has been accepted by all writers on Saracenic architecture that the typical Egyptian madrasa was cruciform in plan, that the four liwans or recesses opening from the *sahn* (or central open court) each accommodated a class studying one of the four Islamic "doctrines," and that this cruciform plan came to Cairo (where it culminated in the magnificent fourteenth-century madrasa of Sultan Hasan) from Syria. This view was held not only by Lane-Poole, Herz, and other writers, but also by Professor van Berchem, who up to the time of his recent death had probably devoted more labour to the chronology of this architecture than any living writer. However, Mr. Creswell states (in a footnote on p. 45) that, just before his death, Professor van Berchem was convinced that this theory was unsound and was enabled by Mr. Creswell's logic to accept the latter's new point of view, to which the present study is devoted.

Summarised briefly, his argument is as follows. Of eight madrasas built in Syria before 1260, none now has, or could have had, four great liwans round a square central court or *sahn*. (This statement is borne out

by careful descriptions of the eight buildings in question, and illustrated by photographs and original plans, which are the more valuable because particulars of these madrasas in Aleppo have not been available in print hitherto.) Most of them had one liwan only, the rest had two. But all had a *masjid* or collegiate chapel, and quite early one also finds a mausoleum included. Then follows a list of early madrasas in Damascus, showing that none were arranged for four "rites" or "doctrines." Other lists, for Aleppo, Jerusalem, and Cairo, support the same conclusion. The Salihyah madrasa in Cairo (begun in 1243) was the first to accommodate all four "rites" but was not cruciform. Another was erected in Baghdad a few years earlier, to which the same applies. The Zahiriyah madrasa (1262-3) in Cairo was the first on a cruciform plan, but did not accommodate the four "rites." The Mansuriyah madrasa (1285) in Cairo, built by Qalaun, has only one liwan, and it is not until we reach the Nasiriyah madrasa (1295-1304) in Cairo that we find the cruciform plan used by all four doctrines. Moreover, of the long list of Cairene madrasas built during the following century, only one, the famous madrasa of Sultan Hasan (1356-63, illustrated in my paper on *Saracenic Architecture* published in this JOURNAL early in 1921), has this so-called "typical" plan. "The result of our investigation therefore is that, although the first four-rite madrasa is found at Baghdad, the first madrasa of cruciform plan is found in Cairo; that the cruciform plan was Egyptian in origin and that it is practically unknown outside Egypt."

This is his main point, but he also suggests a possible origin for the two-liwan plan in the fact that the early teachers of Islam, especially in Damascus, were accustomed to instruct their pupils in their own houses (*i.e.* the teachers' houses) which had two rooms opening from a central court. In Cairo the typical madrasa had a minaret, but not in Syria. Finally he attacks with great gusto what he calls the "Christian architect myth," by which any remarkable success of a Muhammadan architect is ascribed to some Christian prisoner or slave, and he suggests a possible explanation of the Gothic detail in parts of the madrasa of Sultan Hasan by reminding us of the strength of Crusader influence in the previous century.

The work is well annotated, with copious references, and is very free from misprints, though on p. 4 "analogous" is incorrectly spelt, and "Baghdad" is rendered in two different ways on pp. 35 and 43 respectively. Mr. Creswell has justified his election as an Honorary Associate by this work, for it is to those outside our profession who are advancing our knowledge of architecture that this honour should be awarded.

MARTIN S. BRIGGS [F.]

The Library

PORTFOLIO OF ILLUSTRATIONS OF WORK BY C. E. MALLOWS.

Consists of a series of beautiful drawings by the late C. E. Mallows, reproduced from back numbers of *Academy Architecture*. Some of these are of buildings designed by himself, others are competition perspectives for other architects. All display his mastery of line and his skill in delineating both architectural subjects and landscapes, and many illustrate his charming garden-architecture. M. S. B.

MECHANICK EXERCISES: OR THE DOCTRINE OF HANDY-WORKS: Applied to the Arts of Smithing, Joinery, Carpentry, Turning, Bricklayery. The Third Edition. By Joseph Moxon, F.R.S. London, 1703.

This is a manual of building construction of the time of Wren, and as such is a valuable contribution to our Library, which is scantily supplied with works of this character. It includes a number of engravings of various constructional details, tools, etc. The latter part of the book consists of an appendix, with the following amusing title:—

"Mechanick Dyalling
Teaching
Any Man; tho' of an Ordinary Capacity
and unlearned in the Mathematicks
to Draw a True
Sun-Dial
on any
Given Plane
However Situated
Only with the help of a straight Rule
and a pair of Compasses; and without any
Arithmetical Calculation."

We always think of Wren as a man very learned in the "Mathematicks," but it appears that even in his day architects and craftsmen—men of "an ordinary capacity"—welcomed a manual that involved no "arithmetical calculation."

M. S. B.

THE LONDON BUILDING ACTS, 1894-1921. With a copious index, notes, cross references, legal decisions and diagrams; also the by-laws and regulations. Edited by Bernard Dicksee, F.R.I.B.A. 80. Lond., 1922. 7s. 6d. [Edward Stanford, Ltd.]

A useful book supplemental to the author's 1908 edition, bringing the information on the Acts up to date, with a digest of law cases. C. E. S.

PORTES MODERNES: ARCHITECTURE—FERRONERIE—SCULPTURE. Par E. Rumler. 40. Paris. £1 8s. [Librairie de la Construction Moderne, 13, Rue Bonaparte, Paris.]

An interesting collection showing how successfully French architects adapt their historic styles and the unsatisfactory results when they try to be original. C. E. S.

A GUIDE TO ENGLISH GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE. By S. Gardner. 40. Cambridge, 1922. 16s. [Cambridge University Press.]

This is a new edition of a work published some 30 years ago, principally for the use of public school boys, and, while admirably adapted to that purpose, likely to be very useful to professed architectural students if only for the author's beautiful photographs. These, while avoiding hackneyed subjects and points of view, are thoroughly representative of the best English work. The author appears not to have abandoned the Ruskinian dictum that all was decay and decline after the early fourteenth century, a position held by few lovers of Gothic to-day.

W. H. W.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the Institute was held on Wednesday, 24 May, at Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W. The President, Mr. Paul Waterhouse, was in the chair. Among the guests present were :—

The Rt. Hon. H. A. L. Fisher, P.C., M.P., President of the Board of Education; the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Younger; Sir Aston Webb, K.C.V.O., C.B., President of the Royal Academy; Lieut.-General Sir George Macdonogh, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Adjutant-General to the Forces; the Very Rev. W. R. Inge, D.D., Dean of St. Paul's; Major H. J. de Courcy Moore, Sheriff of London; Mr. G. Mills McKay, Sheriff of London; Monsieur A. Louvet, Président de la Société des Architectes Diplômés par le Gouvernement; Sir Anthony Bowlby, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., President of the Royal College of Surgeons; Mr. G. W. Lawrence, J.P., the Mayor of Westminster; Dr. H. S. Hele-Shaw, President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers; Mr. W. B. Worthington, President of the Institution of Civil Engineers; Mr. J. S. Highfield, President of the Institution of Electrical Engineers; Mr. J. H. Blizard, President of the Institute of Sanitary Engineers; Mr. Edwin J. Sadgrove, President of the Society of Architects; Mr. E. Fiander Etchells, President of the Concrete Institute; Mr. J. Storrs, President of the Institute of Builders; Mr. James S. Motion, President of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute; Sir Philip Magnus, Bart., M.P.; Sir Amherst Selby-Bigge, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary of the Board of Education; Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G.; Sir Alfred Hopkinson, K.C.; Sir Hercules Read, President of the Society of Antiquaries; Monsieur Alphonse Richardière, Vice-Président de la Société Centrale des Architectes Français; Mr. Frank Dicksee, R.A.; Mr. W. Cash, President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants; Mr. E. S. Beal, C.C., Master of the Plumbers' Company; Major-General H. F. Thuillier, C.B., C.M.G., Commandant, School of Military Engineering, Chatham; Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C., President of the Architectural Association; Sir Charles T. Ruthen, O.B.E., Director-General of Housing; Sir James Carmichael, K.B.E.; Sir Philip Pilditch, M.P.; Mr. J. W. Lorden, M.P.; Sir Percy Simmons, K.C.V.O.; Mr. G. Topham Forrest, Architect to the L.C.C.; Mr. G. Spencer Watson, Prime Warden of the Saddlers' Company.

There were also the following guests and members present :—

Mr. Maurice B. Adams, Prof. S. D. Adshead (Vice-President R.I.B.A.), Mr. G. P. Allen, Mr. W. H. Ansell, *The Architect*, *The Architects' Journal*, Mr. H. V. Ashley, Mr. Algernon Aspinall, C.M.G., Mr. H. Woodward Aston, Sir Frank Baines, C.B.E., M.V.O., Major Harry Barnes, M.P., Mr. Gilbert Bayes, Mr. R. F. Bayford, Mr. T. P. Bennett, Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Brewill, D.S.O., Mr. Charles H. Brightiff, *The British Architect*, Sir Thomas Brock, Mr. W. L. Trant Brown, *The Builder*, *The Building News*, Mr. W. J. M. Burton, Mr. C. McArthur Butler (Secretary, Society of Architects), *Central News*, Mr. Harold B. Challen, Mr. H. A. Chapman, Mr. Roland B. Chessum (President, London Master Builders' Association), Mr. John Clack, Mr. Sidney C. Clark, Mr. Cyril Cocking, Mr. G. Scott Cockrill, Mr. A. O. Collard, Mr. W. H. Collin, Mr. E. Bernard Cook, Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Cook, Major H. C. Corlette, Mr. C. Cope Cornford, Rt. Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Mr. H. B. Creswell, Mr. W. E. Vernon Crompton, *The Daily Telegraph*, Mr. Charles A. Daubney, Mr. W. R. Davidge, Mr. A. H. Davies, Mr. Arthur J. Davis, Mr. C. F. W. Dening, Mr. Guy F. Denys, Mr. A. Dewing, Mr. A. Kirkwood Dodds, Mr. L. G. Ekins, Councillor Geo. Elmer, Mr. W. M. Epps, Mr. A. H. Fawke, Mr. E. J.

Fawke, Mr. T. Phillips Figgis, Sir Banister Fletcher, Mr. H. M. Fletcher, Major C. B. Flockton, Mr. A. J. Forsdike, Mr. T. O. Foster, Mr. Bernard Francis, Mr. Percival M. Fraser, Mr. D. T. Fyfe, Mr. C. Lovett Gill, Mr. Sydney Gordon, Mr. Harold Goslett, Mr. J. Alfred Gotch (President, Northants A.A.), Mr. Lionel U. Grace, Mr. W. Curtis Green, Mr. Walter Green, Mr. T. J. Gueritte, Mr. Josiah Gunton, Mr. W. H. Gunton, Mr. Edwin T. Hall, Mr. J. Dudley Hall, Mr. E. Stanley Hall, Mr. H. Austen Hall, Mr. J. Percy Hall, Mr. Stanley H. Hamp, Mr. E. Vincent Harris, O.B.E., Mr. Arthur B. Hayward, Mr. C. J. Heffer, Mr. George Hicks, Mr. Joseph Hill, Prof. A. M. Hind (Slade Professor, Oxford), Mr. G. D. Hornblower, O.B.E., Mr. George Hornblower, Mr. Charles St. J. Hornby, M.A., Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., Mr. E. Hudson, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Mr. T. Jenkins, Mr. Francis Jones, Mr. J. W. Jordan, Mr. A. Joyner, Mr. William Keay, Mr. Arthur Keen (Hon. Secretary), Sir Duncan Kerly, K.C., Mr. Henry N. Kerr (President, District Surveyors' Association), Mr. H. E. Knott, Mr. Ralph Knott, Mr. H. Cart de Lafontaine (Master of the Horners' Company), Lieut.-Colonel P. Cart de Lafontaine, Mr. Malcolm Laing, Mr. W. R. M. Lamb, Major N. Leslie, Major R. Lloyd-George, Mr. C. W. Long, Mr. R. T. Longden, Mr. Henry Lovegrove, Mr. T. Geoffrey Lucas, Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, Mr. A. G. R. Mackenzie, Rt. Hon. Lord Muir Mackenzie, Mr. J. McLachlan, Mr. Fred May, Mr. Percy W. Meredith, Mr. A. A. Messer, Mr. A. C. Meston, Rt. Hon. the Earl of Middleton, Mr. T. R. Milburn (President, Northern A.A.), Mr. W. Milburn, Mr. F. A. Minter, Mr. G. Mitchell, Mr. G. B. Mitchell (President, Aberdeen Society of Architects), Rt. Hon. Sir Alfred Mond, Mr. Greville Montgomery, *The Morning Post*, Mr. Arthur G. Morrice, Mr. Alan E. Munby (President of York and E. Yorkshire Architectural Society), Mr. J. Murrey, Mr. G. E. Nield, Mr. Nield, jun., Mr. D. Barclay Niven, Mr. F. T. Pament, Mr. Herbert Passmore, Mr. G. L. Pepler, Mr. W. G. Perring, M.P., Mr. J. Peters, Mr. H. G. Picehurst, Mr. F. W. Pomeroy, R.A., Mr. E. Turner Powell, Sir Ambrose Poynter, Bart., Mr. W. T. Plume (Hon. A.R.I.B.A.), Mr. A. N. Prentice, *The Press Association*, Mr. E. G. Price, Mr. Stanley C. Ramsey, Mr. Walter Reynolds, L.C.C., Mr. W. E. Riley, Mr. G. Leonard Russell, Mr. F. G. Rye, Mr. R. Sanderson, Mr. W. Gillbee Scott, Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood (Vice-President, R.I.B.A.), Sir William L. Selfe, K.B., Mr. Herbert Shepherd, Mr. Leslie Shingleton, Mr. E. Simmons, Mr. John W. Simpson, Mr. Einer Skjold, Mr. John Slater, Mr. E. Whitney Smith, Prof. R. Elsey Smith, Mr. Roger T. Smith, Mr. A. E. Strong, Major Swindells, Mr. C. J. Tait, Mr. E. J. Tanner, Mr. Walter Tapper, Mr. Bateman B. Tarring, Mr. Sydney Tatchell, Mr. Percy Thomas (President, S. Wales Institute of Architects), *The Times*, Mr. C. Trollope, Mr. Lawrence A. Turner, Mr. F. W. Tyler, Mr. James W. Tyler, Mr. James E. Ward, Major-General Sir Fabian Ware, K.B.E., Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.S.A. (President, Berks, Bucks, and Oxon A.A.), Sir Alfred Watson, K.C.B. (President, Institute of Actuaries), Mr. Herbert A. Welch, *The Westminster Gazette*, Mr. Frederick Whinney, Mr. H. C. D. Whinney, Mr. T. B. Whinney, Mr. G. Wilkins, Mr. F. R. Gould Wills, Mr. C. J. Wilson, Mr. Denis Wilson, Mr. Geoffrey C. Wilson, Mr. Needham Wilson, Mr. Frank Woodward, Mr. William Woodward, Mr. F. R. Yerbury (Secretary, the Architectural Association), Mr. E. A. Young, Mr. Ian MacAlister (Secretary, R.I.B.A.), and members of the staff.

The Rt. Hon. H. A. L. FISHER (President of the Board of Education), proposing the toast of "The Arts," said he was speaking in the place and in the character of a very distinguished statesman, Lord Middleton, and he (the speaker) asked himself what Lord Middleton would

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have said upon that occasion. As a member of the hereditary branch of the Legislature, he would have undoubtedly prefaced his observations by reminding them that Bolshevism was fatal, Socialism injurious, and Democracy perilous to the life of the arts. He would have reminded them that while architects built houses, peers of the realm lived in them; that while painters painted pictures, peers of the realm bought them. Passing from those considerations, in recalling his experiences as Secretary of State for India, Lord Midleton would have commented, in adverse terms, upon the absence of an Oriental section in the National Gallery. He would have reminded the audience that India had an art, China had an art, Japan, even, had an art; and, finding himself in the presence of such a great authority as the President of the Royal Academy, he would have ventured to suggest that some means should have been taken to remedy that position. Then he would have recalled his brilliant past as Secretary of State for War, and would have reminded them of the famous picture in the present Royal Academy exhibiting the deterioration of military millinery from the point of view of the fine arts. He would have associated himself with the policy advocated by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the matter of reverting to garments in the familiar red. Speaking as a connoisseur of the arts, he would undoubtedly, after careful comparison of the claims of poetry, oratory, architecture and painting, have come down on the side of architecture. He would have reminded them that the architect was fortunate because he lived in two worlds—he lived in a world of business and in the realm of beauty and ideals. On the one hand, they could tell at a glance the cost of a house. Their estimates were invariably exact and close to the provisional anticipation. On the other hand, they followed their own fancy. They embodied in material form the aspirations of different classes of society, different races, different epochs; and whereas forms of art might rapidly perish and pass away, the architect had always his consolation in the relative durability of the structures which he erected. Finally, Lord Midleton would have addressed them as an Oxford man, and in that capacity he would undoubtedly have quoted from the Greek philosopher, Aristotle, and have given them the sobering reflection that while the architect was undoubtedly the most skilled deviser of houses, the best critic of houses was the person who was condemned to live in them. It was a great privilege for him (the speaker) to be able to propose that toast. After all, art was an essential ingredient in sound education, and it was a great pleasure to associate the toast with the name of the distinguished architect, Sir Aston Webb. They knew him as one of the most accomplished architects of their age and country, and as the President of that great society which brought before the mind and imagination of British people the ideal of the beautiful in life.

Sir ASTON WEBB [*F.*] (President of the Royal Academy), responding, said he had a very difficult task in undertaking to give in about five minutes a condensed account of art in a temperature of what height he did not know. First of all he must thank Mr. Fisher for what he had said in reference to architecture. Mr. Fisher had a wonderful imagination, and had been able to tell them

not only what he wished to say himself, but also everything that Lord Midleton would have said. Architects had to give estimates for houses, and he thought as a rule they did it very well; sometimes the estimates might be more than the final cost, sometimes they might be less—they could never be quite sure what it would be. Architects were, of course, much obliged to the public for living in the houses architects built—that was a delicate compliment that he always appreciated, for the more houses the public wanted the better for architects. Owing to circumstances over which our architects had no control whatever, building was in a very bad state at the present time. With regard to art, that was a very large question. There was a certain number of people to whom art seemed to be instinctive, and therefore it was quite unnecessary for him to say anything about art to them; there was also a certain number of people to whom art seemed to be nothing at all, and therefore it seemed quite unnecessary to say anything on the subject to them. It came to this: that there were very few people to whom it was worth while saying anything at all about art! Art was one of those things one could not talk about. To the true artist who had made a study of his craft and knew it thoroughly the work he did in a day gave him much more happiness than the dinner he ate at night. To the lover of art, art came as a silent and profound influence. Artists had certain qualities which must be born in them—they must have enthusiasm, they must have a sense of mystery and of power and of colour—and if they had not those qualities no power on earth could endow them with them. On the other hand, the qualities some artists have could be increased and enlarged and strengthened and rectified by education, and it was in that direction that the Royal Institute of British Architects and the art schools were useful in endeavouring to help men to make most use of the qualifications with which Nature had happily endowed them. Art, if it was to live, must be idealistic and realistic. The ideal side of art must come from the artist's own inner consciousness and feeling. The realistic side must come from knowledge, and, therefore, education was essential. There was an idea that artists lived a life by themselves, and had not much in common with other people, but no mistake could be greater. Many of the great artists in the past were great men of the world, such as Leonardo da Vinci, Lord Leighton, and others. In the midst of the strife at the end of the eighteenth century the artists of France made and prepared a plan for the defence and beautification of Paris, and when Paris was reconstructed in the middle of the last century that plan was made use of. In 1914, when the war broke out, what did the artists of this country do? They all enlisted at once, and hardly a student was left in the art schools. The R.I.B.A. used the services of those who were left, and made one of the finest surveys of London, which, in his opinion, was the finest civic survey ever made up to the present time—he was extremely sorry it had never been finished; it was so nearly finished, it would be a magnificent thing to complete it and hand it over to the authorities. The London Society prepared a plan for the arterial roads out of London; that plan was completed, and after the war, when unemployment was rife, the authorities turned to that plan and a large number of arterial roads were now

actually being carried out. The number of young artists who went abroad should also be remembered. The Royal Academy Schools lost 35 young fellows; the Architectural Association Schools lost 90; the R.I.B.A. lost 230 from its membership and students; the Artists' Rifles lost over 2,000, and Lord Cavan, when unveiling the memorial to that regiment at the Royal Academy the other day, said there was no record finer than that of the Artists' Rifles. It was only right that it should be known what artists had done during the war. If in any war there was ever an ideal it was the last war, which was fought for the ideal of protecting a people who could not protect themselves, the ideal of right against might. Artists should always look towards their ideals and strive to get as near them as possible; they would then do something for art and be happier themselves, and perhaps one or two geniuses might do something that would touch the world.

Sir ALFRED HOPKINSON, K.C., in proposing the toast of "The Royal Institute of British Architects," said, after seeing many cities abroad, he thought on his return what a fine city London had become. In his college days he thought what a fine city Oxford was, but when he was there last the High Street looked more beautiful than ever, largely owing to the work of members of the Institute. Those things spoke for themselves. He knew the great work the Institute had done, especially in the direction of education and in the training of young men to follow in the footsteps of the great architects of the present. One of the things which made life tolerable was the neglect of conventional duties, and the beauty of old age was that it did not matter two straws whether one neglected one's duties or not. After referring to the work of the President of the Institute, he said there were two characteristics which he hoped would always be borne in mind by the members of the profession. The first qualification for an architect was adaptability, or an ability to supply the client with what he wanted—not to thrust the highest art upon the client, but to give him what he wanted. The second necessary characteristic was not to be misled by clients who said "Now we have got what we want, make it grand for us." A great building was a thing which would exist for all time, and would appeal to future generations. He had recently heard St. Mark's referred to as the apotheosis of commercialism, but it was the commercialism of those who had the greatest and richest gifts. That was the kind of thing he hoped would govern the great works now being produced. Architects had the opportunity of producing things which would be seen by posterity, an opportunity which was denied to those who practised in the law; the works of the architect would be a record for all time, and that was one of the factors which made the profession of the architect so much to be envied. In conclusion, he referred to the works of the late Alfred Waterhouse and of the President of the Institute.

The PRESIDENT, in responding to the toast, said he was a whole-hearted Institute man. When he spoke of the Institute he spoke entirely with prejudice. The Civil Engineers had a prize called the Hawksley Prize, and one of the conditions was that it should be judged by the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers and by the President of the R.I.B.A. The idea of the prize was not to teach young engineers how to make a thing look archi-

tectural, but to encourage them to compete with one another in producing those elements of beauty which arose from pure construction treated poetically. They could not too warmly recognise the spirit of that prize. At the moment it appeared that the students had not fully realised its significance, but he hoped the President of the Institute of Civil Engineers and himself might be able to give them some instruction which would enable them to work on rather different lines.

He knew there were many men who thought that the Institute was of no use whatever. He had had an opportunity lately of seeing something of architects abroad, and some of them had said to him that an institute or society of architects was a thing which was of no use in theory, and in practice it broke down; that in their particular town it was run by a clique of men for their own ends—they took all the advantages. But there was more in it than that. If anyone in that room thought the R.I.B.A. was a clique, let him come in and see what it was like. He (the speaker) wondered if anybody valued what they were doing in the way of education. During his association with the Institute, and particularly during the time he was chairman of the Board of Architectural Education, he had obtained a great insight into the work of the Institute. It was getting to be a big thing. It was a proud day for them to think that very nearly all the architectural schools in the country within their reach were willingly subscribing to the conditions which the Institute made as to the entrance of students to associateship. In their competitions they did incalculable service to the members of the craft as well as to the members of the public. He urged them to think of their power of public expression as an Institute. A great many of them had been asked from time to time by their clients and members of the public if they could give advice as to whether they were to save their money for a further fall in prices. He was aware that many of his friends were very anxious to make a public expression on the point; it was dangerous to prophesy, but it was never dangerous to give an honest opinion. The conclusion which he had come to, and to which he knew nearly all of them subscribed, was that, wise as the public had been in reserving their money during the past year, the time was closely at hand when the liberation of that money would be a wise policy on their part, although no one could guarantee that there would not be a further fall in prices. There had been great falls already, and there was a further fall of 2d. per hour in the wages of the operatives coming next month. After making eulogistic references to Mr. Arthur Keen, the Hon. Secretary of the Institute, and to Mr. MacAlister, Mr. Waterhouse briefly referred to unification. Let them be unified that evening. It was of vast importance, and he was not putting it aside. In conclusion, he emphasised the importance of the Institute.

Mr. JOHN SLATER [F.] proposed the toast of "The Guests," and referred to the position and achievements of some of those present that evening, all of whom he cordially welcomed on behalf of the Institute. He specially mentioned the presence of Monsieur Louvet, to whom he addressed a few words in French. From the time when it held its first dinner, about 80 years ago, the

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Royal Institute had, he said, always been noted for its hospitality.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice YOUNGER and the DEAN OF ST. PAUL'S (Dr. Inge) responded to the toast.

Monsieur A. Louvet, Président de la Société des Architectes Diplômés par le Gouvernement, responded as follows :—

Je suis heureux de vous apporter aujourd'hui le salut cordial de la S.A.D.G.

Je désire tout d'abord vous remercier du grand honneur que vous m'avez fait, à moi et à la Société, en me nommant l'année dernière membre correspondant de votre illustre compagnie.

Il y a quelques jours seulement plusieurs des vôtres étaient à Paris pour la réunion annuelle de l'Union Franco-Britannique des Architectes, notamment notre éminent confrère Simpson, qui a été élu Président de l'Union pour 1923, et l'infatigable Cart de Lafontaine. Ils ont pu vous dire combien nous avons été heureux de les revoir et de montrer avec eux au Directeur des Beaux Arts, les belles œuvres que nos confrères britanniques ont envoyées au Salon. Nous ne devons pas nous lasser de répéter combien est utile à l'Architecture, combien aussi est utile aux deux pays ces rapports que nous maintenons entre nos deux sociétés et qu'affirme l'Union récemment créée, mais préparée depuis si longtemps.

C'est la communauté d'idées, la fraternité dans l'action commune, qui nous a rapprochés davantage. C'est aussi une sympathie qui date de loin, comme je le rappelais au dîner de l'Union Franco-Britannique, voilà longtemps que nous faisons de l'enseignement mutuel. Nous avons beaucoup à apprendre chez vous, notamment dans l'architecture domestique, qu'il s'agisse de maisons d'ouvriers ou de châteaux—vous avez en cette matière un souci de la composition pratique, de l'élégante simplicité qui peut servir d'exemple. Ne pouvons-nous pas aussi vous être utile. Vous avez constaté l'effort considérable qui se fait en France pour l'aménagement de logements à bon marché et des cités-jardins.

Peut-être dans ces derniers avez vous un peu retrouvé l'architecture de votre pays. Vous avez pu constater aussi l'effort—je puis dire héroïque—que font nos confrères français pour la reconstitution des régions dévastées, malgré les énormes difficultés qui surgissent à chaque instant. C'est ce contact continu qui nous est utile, et, comme nous n'avons pas les mêmes qualités ni les mêmes défauts, nous pouvons nous compléter mutuellement. Nous parlerons aussi utilement des grandes questions qui intéressent l'enseignement de l'architecture. N'avons-nous pas été très fiers de voir à l'Architectural Association des ateliers organisés à peu près comme ceux de notre Ecole Nationale ? La seule différence c'est qu'il y a plus de jeunes filles que chez nous et que l'on y prend le thé à quatre heures. Mais chez vous, comme chez nous, on travaille avec zèle—je pourrais presque dire, avec passion. Voilà toutes les raisons qui rendent utile la bonne entente entre nos grandes sociétés—celle que j'ai l'honneur de représenter est, vous le savez, une société vigoureuse, ardente—on l'appelle volontiers une "société de jeunes"—bien qu'elle compte

bien des têtes grises et même blanches. Mais elle cherche à conserver l'entrain de la jeunesse et elle suit avec intérêt les travaux des sociétés britanniques. D'accord avec les autres sociétés françaises qui sont unies en fédération, d'accord notamment avec la Société Centrale notre doyenne, représentée ce soir par mon ami Richardière, l'un de ses vice-présidents, nous continuerons à resserrer les liens qui nous unissent, et nous pouvons espérer que ces liens s'étendront un jour aux nations amies qui ont contribué à assurer la défense de la civilisation et de l'Art. Nous y trouverons le plus grand avantage et j'ajoute aussi le plus grand plaisir.

Mes chers confrères, au nom de la S.A.D.G., je porte la santé de votre président, notre éminent confrère, M. Waterhouse, de votre (ancien) vice-président M. John Slater et des membres de l'Institut Royal.

Rome Scholarships in Architecture

The scheme of competition for the Rome Scholarship in Architecture, offered by the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and for the Henry Jarvis Scholarship, offered by the Institute, has now been issued :—

The Rome Scholarship will be of the value of £250 per annum, and will be ordinarily tenable at the British School at Rome for three years. Candidates must be British subjects and less than 27 years of age* on 1 July 1923.

The Jarvis Studentship will be of the value of £250 per annum, and will be ordinarily tenable at the British School at Rome for two years. This studentship will be confined to Students or Associates of the R.I.B.A. (see section "B"), but otherwise the conditions for the two awards will be the same.

The competition, which will be conducted by the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome, will be in two stages :—

A. A preliminary competition, open to approved candidates.

B. A final competition, open to not more than ten candidates selected from those competing in the preliminary competition.

Particulars of the general regulations governing the tenure of the Scholarships may be had on application to the Honorary General Secretary, 1 Lowther Gardens, Exhibition Road, S.W.7.

* Admission to compete may be granted at the absolute discretion of the Faculty to candidates over 27 years of age, provided they have spent in war service at least that number of years by which their age exceeds 27.

The Franco-British Union of Architects

SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL MEETING IN PARIS.

BY H. P. CART DE LAFONTAINE [A.], O.B.E., T.D., OFFICIER D'ACADÉMIE.

THE second annual conference and general meeting of the Union, which took place on 12 and 13 May in Paris, once again demonstrated the fact that the Union supplies a long-felt want in facilitating the exchange of ideas between French and British architects, and by enabling them to meet and discuss the problems of the day. The objects for which the Union was founded, as defined by its "Statuts," are to symbolise and strengthen the ties of friendship, uniting the architects of France and Great Britain, to improve personal and professional relations, and safeguard the interests of architects in both countries, to contribute to the advancement of architectural education and the progress of architecture, and to encourage French and British architects to render each other mutual assistance, and to provide a means of communication for that purpose.

The recent conference was a practical application of these principles, and owed much of its success to the policy adopted by the Bureau of limiting official business to one sitting. The only formal meeting was held on Friday, 12 May, when the following members were elected to form the Bureau for the next session, commencing on 1 October 1922 :—

President, J. W. Simpson, F.R.I.B.A., Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Membre correspondant de l'Institut, etc. Vice-President, J. Godefroy, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Architecte en Chef des Postes & Télégraphes, Hon. Member Architectural Association. Secretary-General, H. P. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E., T.D., Officier d'Académie, Membre correspondant S.A.D.G. Hon. Treasurer, J. M. Poupinel, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Hon. Corresponding member R.I.B.A.

British Committee.—Professor P. Abercrombie, M.A., Sir Reginald Blomfield, M.A., R.A., Litt.D., F.S.A., Officier Ordre de Leopold II., Membre correspondant S.A.D.G., Ferdinand Billerey, W. G. Newton, M.A., M.C., Membre correspondant S.A.D.G., A. N. Paterson, M.A., A.R.S.A., Paul Waterhouse, M.A., F.S.A. (P.R.I.B.A.), Membre correspondant S.A.D.G. Hon. Secretary, Arthur J. Davis.

French Committee.—MM. André, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Chef d'Atelier à l'Ecole des Beaux Arts ; Arnaud, Officier de la Légion d'Honneur, Professeur de construction à l'Ecole Centrale et à l'Ecole des Beaux Arts ; Bonnier, Officier de la Légion d'Honneur, Inspecteur Général des Services d'Architecture et d'Esthétique de la Préfecture de la Seine, Hon. Corresponding member R.I.B.A., Defrasse, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Architecte en Chef des Bâtiments Civils and Palais Nationaux, Architecte de la

Banque de France, Grand Prix de Rome ; Richardière, Vice-President de la Société centrale ; Thoumy, Officier de la Légion d'Honneur, Architecte en Chef des Bâtiments Civils, Commissaire Général de la Société des Artistes Français ; Hon. Secretary, A. Schneider, Secrétaire Général S.A.D.G.

The names of the following members elected since the last General Meeting were read :—

British Section.—S. D. Adsehead, Herbert Baker, F. Billerey, H. C. Bradshaw, M. Chaurès, T. E. Cooper, E. G. Dawber, C. A. Farey, H. M. Fletcher, J. G. S. Gibson, J. Keppie, H. V. Lanchester, Sir E. L. Lutyens, L. de Soissons, R. Unwin, E. P. Warren, M. E. Webb, H. Worthington, P. Worthington, T. P. Bennet, B. Cox, J. S. Forbes, H. A. Hall, S. Hamp, J. Murray, T. S. Tait, J. D. Tate.

French Section.—MM. Arfvidson, Blanchard, Chaussemiche, Chretien-Lalanne, Coutan, Danis, Déglane, Duquesne, Devienne, Febvre, Formigé père, Formigé fils, J. Héraud, Hébrard, Jalabert, Hulot, J. Lamaizière, Legros, Lisch, Mewès, Normand, Roussi, Templier.

An amendment to the "Statuts" was passed admitting to honorary membership persons of distinction who are not architects, and it was decided to invite His Majesty the King and the President of the French Republic to become Honorary Presidents ; and to invite the following to become Honorary Members of the Union : His Excellency the French Ambassador in Great Britain ; His Excellency the British Ambassador in France ; M. Leon Bérard, Ministre de l'Instruction Publique et des Beaux Arts ; M. Paul Léon, membre de l'Institut, Directeur des Beaux Arts ; the Rt. Hon. Earl Balfour of Whittinghame, K.G., P.C. ; the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T., P.C.

At the conclusion of the meeting delegates were entertained to tea by the Société des Architectes Diplômés, and later an informal visit was made to M. André's atelier at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. An excellent programme of visits and social functions had been arranged by the French committee, including visits to two small housing schemes, a visit to the Château and Parc at Versailles, and to the Salon, and terminating with an informal dinner.

The first of these visits took place, in unfavourable weather conditions, on Friday morning, but in spite of the rain there was much of interest in the housing schemes promoted by the Office Départementale des Habitations à Bon Marché at "Les Lilas" and at Drancy. These, and some other small schemes in the suburbs of Paris, are not part of a large plan but have been put in hand to provide for the immediate needs of housing in the industrial districts. The layout and the planning of the houses, which are in blocks of two, four or—in one or two cases (as at "Les Lilas")—six

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houses, owe much to the housing and town planning schemes which have been carried out in England. MM. Pelletier and Teisseire, the joint architects of the scheme at "Les Lilas," explained that owing to the high price of the land, which covers an area of about 16 acres, the number of houses to the hectare was about 30 (or 12 to the acre), the average house (living room, parlour and three bedrooms) was about £600. These are constructed of coke-breeze blocks with cavity walls.

The scheme at Drancy, planned by MM. Bassompierre and de Rulle, provides accommodation for employees of the Ceinture Railway, is well laid out, and the plans of the blocks of houses are attractive and interesting. In this scheme a brick treatment has been adopted and the elevations are simple and pleasing. M. Bassompierre, who took the party round and explained the details of the scheme, had some interesting details to give and told us that in the later houses a cellar had been added to provide extra storage accommodation, as this was found to be necessary. At the end of each pair of gardens a brick fowl-house has been built, in order to prevent the erection of insanitary and untidy sheds. One was particularly struck, even in the smallest "Unité," consisting of bedroom, living room and scullery, with the spotless cleanliness and neatness of the houses already in occupation. An interesting feature of this scheme is the large "Co-operative" store, with a large meeting room over, which is nearing completion.

On Saturday a visit was made, in perfect weather, to the Château and Parc de Versailles. M. Chaussemiche, the Architect and Curator of the Palais, explained many interesting points and showed us some of the new discoveries of rooms transformed by Louis Philippe which are being restored, and parts of the vast building which are not open to the public. The British members and their ladies were afterwards entertained by the President and Council of the Société des Architectes Diplômés, to luncheon at the Restaurant de la Flotille, in the park. On the return to the station a rapid visit was made to the Grand Trianon, the theatre, etc. The next item on our programme for a rather busy day was the official visit to the Salon des Artistes Français. The party was received at the Grand Palais by M. Nénot, Membre de l'Institut, Président du Jury, Section d'Architecture, and M. Thoumy, Commissaire Général de la Société des Artistes Français; the British members were presented to M. Paul Léon, Directeur des Beaux Arts, who inspected the British exhibits and subsequently visited the galleries in which the French work is shown. The party then adjourned to the Salle des Conférences, for a "conférence" on "L'Architecture Anglaise." M. Léon (who took the chair) expressed his appreciation of the fine work of the British artists they had just seen, and said it gave him great pleasure to be present as the representative of his government at such an interesting meeting between

architects of France and Great Britain. He concluded by asking Mr. Simpson to read his paper on "L'Architecture Anglaise."

Mr. John W. Simpson, who spoke in French, in the course of his paper said it was manifestly impossible to consider anything but a small fragment of the subject. He would therefore adopt the method of the geologist and detach a chip from the rock, which they would examine so that they might learn something of its character. He would try and explain the development of the plan of the country house as being perhaps the most characteristic feature of their architecture. The lecturer then traced the growth of the plan of a modern country house from its origin in the common hall with its dependencies, and, on the proposition of M. Louvet, Président of the Union, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper.

The programme of the meeting terminated with an informal dinner at which the British delegates were the guests of the Société des Architectes Diplômés, and which took place on Saturday evening at the Restaurant des Centraux.

M. Louvet proposed the toast of the King and the President of the French Republic, and read the following message from His Majesty, the company remaining standing:

"Au Président de l'Union Franco-Britannique des Architectes, Paris,

"Le Roi me commande de vous transmettre, ainsi qu'aux membres de l'Union Franco-Britannique des Architectes, ses chaleureux remerciements pour votre aimable message, en exprimant, ses meilleurs souhaits pour le succès de votre société.

"PRIVATE SECRETARY."

M. Louvet then addressed a few words of welcome to the British members and referred to the work of the Union and its usefulness in promoting cordial relations between architects of the two countries.

Mr. J. W. Simpson thanked the President for the cordial welcome which had been given to British members by their French colleagues, and referred to the pleasant relations that had existed between architects of France and England for many years. He had no doubt the Union would continue and extend this friendship, and English architects hoped to welcome a number of their French confrères at the meeting in London next year.

M. Paul Léon, who proposed the toast of the Franco-British Union of Architects, said that England and France seemed naturally destined to close friendship, being only separated by a shallow depression in the earth's surface, so unimportant that if Notre Dame was sunk in the Channel the top of the towers would still be visible. He thought the Union had great opportunities for cementing this entente; artists were disinterested missionaries, and because of

this they would be listened to in their mission of goodwill. They had had that afternoon an opportunity of seeing the admirable work of their British colleagues at the Salon, and they appreciated the high artistic qualities shown by these drawings. He sometimes felt that it was to be regretted that in public exhibitions more models were not shown. The work of an architect, which was a composition in solids, would, he thought, be better appreciated by the public if illustrated in this way; it would also tend to increase the public interest in their art by making it easier to understand. They had seen at the Salon an interesting section devoted to decoration but he thought they would agree the first of the decorators should be the architect.

Mr. Arthur J. Davis also made a short speech, in which he expressed the appreciation of British architects for the work and great traditions of their French colleagues.

This brought the proceedings to a close and the English members bade their hosts a cordial "Au revoir" until the next meeting in London.

Public Lectures on Architecture

Two of the series of five public lectures arranged by the Literature Committee have already been held before good audiences. Mr. Halsey Ricardo gave the first lecture on 18 May, on "The Value of Public Opinion" from an architectural standpoint; Professor Ernest A. Gardner followed on 25 May with a paper on "Greek Public Buildings," which was illustrated by a large number of lantern slides. It is hoped to publish both lectures in full in the JOURNAL. The following résumé of Professor Gardner's has been received from Mr. W. H. Ansell [A.] :—

Professor Gardner described the general appearance of the Greek city. The older cities, he said, consisted of narrow streets, lined by unimpressive houses having no windows facing the street. All were simple, unostentatious, bearing great resemblance one to the other.

The well-known dictum of Demosthenes was quoted: "While for the state the heroes of old erected such buildings and set up such works of art as posterity has never been able to surpass, yet in private life they were so simple and moderate that if anyone looks at the house of Aristides or Miltiades he will see that it was in no wise more pretentious than its neighbours." The truth was that the social life of the Greek city was mostly lived in the open air or the public buildings. The Greek spent his days in the agora, the gymnasium or the theatre. It was on these buildings, and, of course, on his temples, that the Greek employed his genius for architecture.

In the age of Alexander town-planning became a more orderly and stately thing, particularly in the cities of the Ionian coast of Asia Minor. The lecturer gave a detailed analysis of the planning of Priene, Pergamon and other cities, with slides of existing remains, and hypothetical restorations of their public buildings. These were principally the porticoes surrounding the agora, the great altars and their precincts and enclosures, the libraries, theatres and stadia.

The Prytaneum, or town hall, and the Ecclesiasterion, or assembly chamber, were shown on the plan of Priene. Professor Gardner pointed out how the climate, giving on occasion brilliant sun and torrential rain, influenced the planning and arrangement of the public buildings. The open portico or colonnade surrounded all the markets, the altars, and many of the temple precincts. The planning of the Hellenistic city, seen for the first time by the conquering Roman, undoubtedly affected the later planning of the Roman cities. A description of the Arsenal at the Piræus and the Propylæa at Athens and elsewhere completed an interesting and scholarly lecture.

The remaining lectures and the dates on which they are to be delivered are as follows: 8 June, Mr. D. S. Maccoll, "What is Architectural Design"; 15 June, Professor C. H. Reilly, "Some London Streets and their Recent Buildings"; 21 June (Wednesday), "The Continuity of English Architecture." The lectures begin at 5 p.m.

ARCHITECTS' FEES AND QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY.

On the recommendation of the Practice Standing Committee, the Council of the Institute have decided to make representations to the Queen Anne's Bounty Office with regard to the fees paid to architects.

BUILDING BY-LAWS.

A deputation has been appointed by the Council to urge the Ministry of Health to extend the operation of Section 25 of the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1919 for a further period of at least 12 months.

WEBB'S DRAWINGS OF THE PALACE AT WHITEHALL.

Mr. Andrew Oliver [A.] writes: "With reference to Webb's drawings, Mr. Gotch contributed a paper, illustrated with about thirty of Webb's drawings, to the *Architectural Review* for June 1912, together with a list showing where the drawings may be found."

THE EMPIRE TIMBER EXHIBITION, 1920.

A quantity of surplus catalogues of the above exhibition are still available for disposal. Arrangements have been made with the Department of Overseas Trade for the sale of these catalogues at the R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W., where they can be obtained at the price of 2s. each (post free 2s. 4½d.).

Westminster Hall

METHODS OF EXTERMINATING THE WOOD-BORING BEETLE, *XESTOBIUM TESSELLATUM*

THE systematic survey of the roof of Westminster Hall by the Ancient Monuments Branch of His Majesty's Office of Works and Public Buildings in 1913 revealed the fact that by far the greater portion of the very serious decay in the timbers was due to the attack of a wood-boring beetle, whose ravages were first discovered by the personal examination of the roof by the present Director of Works, Sir Frank Baines, C.B.E., M.V.O.

The insect was identified by Dr. Gahan and others as *Xestobium Tesselatum*, one of the anobiid beetles.

The life history of the creature is still the subject of investigation, but it is known to undergo a complete metamorphosis through a larval stage, a chrysalis or pupal stage and then become the perfect beetle. It is believed that the larval stage, in which the white slightly curved grub is known as "wood-worm," is the period of the greatest destructive activity, when it bores through the oak with its hard, sharp jaws, forming a circular tunnel of approximately one-eighth of an inch diameter. The soft body of the grub is armed with minute horny pegs, directed out and backward, with which to press upon the sides and top of the bore-hole and give driving power to the jaws. When the larval stage is about to terminate, the grub directs his bore-hole towards the surface of the wood without actually piercing an opening, and lies down near the end of the tunnel for the duration of the chrysalis or pupal stage. On the emergence of the beetle from the chrysalis, the bore hole is completed to the outer air, and, after drying and hardening, the beetle is now complete and commences to call for a mate with the rhythmic tapping from which it derives its popular name of "death-watch." The call is produced by the beetle rising upon its front legs and rapidly dropping again until its jaws strike a sharp blow upon the surface of the wood. Eight or ten taps in quick succession compose the call. The eggs from which the grubs are hatched are laid in cracks and joints of the timber and this has caused some of the principal bearing joints of the roof to be most severely damaged. The grub's habit of working in the dark and not emerging through to the outside of the timber until completely transformed into the perfect beetle has led to the preservation of a sound-looking outer crust on beams whose interior is completely eaten away.

Dr. Maxwell Lefroy, of the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington, has taken the life history of the beetle into account in devising a chemical preparation for preserving the wood in future from its attacks, and had added a proportion of cedar-wood oil to the insecticide to keep the beetles, who seem to dislike its scent, from approaching to lay their eggs on the wood. In devising a suitable compound several limiting conditions were first laid down, which excluded the use of reagents that were highly inflammable or so poisonous as to involve serious risk to the workmen applying the preservative. The characteristic orange brown colour of the old timber was carefully preserved by the exclusion of any substance that had the effect of changing or darkening its hue.

The active principle of Dr. Lefroy's composition, tetrachlorethane, is a very powerful insecticide, but, unfortunately,

it is also capable of adversely affecting human beings, as it is a powerful liver poison. It had, therefore, to be diluted with other ingredients into a form in which it was reasonably safe to handle. After considerable experiment, both in the laboratory and in Westminster Hall, the formula was settled as follows :—

	Per cent.
Tetrachlorethane	50
Cedar-wood oil	6
Solvent soap	2
Paraffin wax	2
Trichlorethylene	40

The solvent soap holds the oil and renders the wood non-inflammable and the paraffin wax prevents chemical action. The trichlorethylene is a solvent and diluent for the tetrachlorethane and is itself a feeble insecticide.

Notwithstanding the considerable dilution of the principal ingredient, the resulting liquid and its volatile products were still regarded by the Home Office experts as poisonous, and the men applying the spray were required to wear approved gas-masks. Five of these "gasman's masks" were obtained from Messrs. Siebe, Gorman and Co., Westminster Bridge Road. They consist of a pneumatically sealed cover over the nose and mouth with back-pressure valve for the exhaled breath and a long india-rubber tube reaching to the external air. A canvas cap fitted over the operator's head keeps the cover for mouth and nose in position.

As the result of further experiment and the consideration of the actual spraying of the timbers, it was proposed, in October 1917, to substitute a non-poisonous solution. The active insecticide in this second solution was ortho-para-dichlorobenzene, which is even more deadly to the beetle than the first solution. Soap and cedar-wood oil were added to perform the same functions as before. The material was actually made up to the formula :—

	Per cent.
Ortho-para-dichlorobenzene	91
White Castille soap base	7
Cedar-wood oil	2

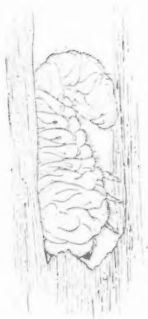
It was obtained from Messrs. Heppells, Insectox Laboratories, 2 and 6, Eden Street, Hampstead Road, N.W.

The method of applying the spray was the same for the second solution as the first, with the exception that the "gasman's masks" were only necessary to be used with the first solution. A thorough brushing away of dust and debris preceded the actual spraying operations, and dust lying in the bore-holes of the beetle—the excreta of the creature's digestive processes—was removed by air blast through a hose and spray nozzle. The container for the solution was used to produce this blast, but a vacuum cleaner would be efficient. The cleaning operation was of primary importance, as the penetration of the solution into the wood fibres might be very seriously diminished by a screen of dirt upon the surface of the timber. The time spent in cleaning generally exceeded that given up to the two coatings of spray afterwards applied.

WESTMINSTER HALL BEETLE
XESTOBIUM TESSELLATUM — *RAFOVILLOSCUM*



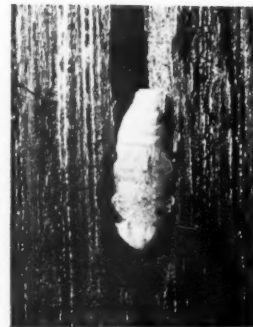
GRUB FEEDING



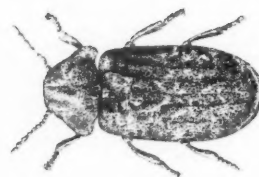
GRUB, TO SHOW HOW IT OBTAINS PRESSURE



GRUB FEEDING (about 3 times full size)



CHRYSAALIS



BEETLE
 (Photographs made by Dr. Lefroy)



BEETLE

A ten-gallon container composed of acid-proof metal known as "virex alloy" was obtained from Messrs. Holder, Harriden and Co., Nobel House, 35, Nobel Street, Falcon Square, E.C.2. The container was mounted on an iron frame-work with a wheel and two legs and two handles, so that it could be wheeled or lifted from point to point about the scaffolds. It was fitted with a hand pump for working up an air-pressure of 120 lb. to the square inch and a pressure gauge graduated to measure up to that figure. A screw nozzle and tap allowed the hose for the discharge of the liquid to be attached near the bottom of the container, the hose itself being provided with another tap at the free end so that the spray could also be turned on or off by the operator directing it against the wood.

The proceedings were generally carried out in the following order:—

1. The portion of the timbers to be sprayed was cleaned and blown free from dust.
2. Nine gallons of the well-stirred solution were poured from the drum in which it was obtained from the manufacturer into the cylindrical container and the machine hauled up to the scaffold by the electric winch fitted on the floor of the Hall.
3. The two operators and those watching or assisting in the experiment arranged the air tubes of their "gas-man's masks" so that the air drew freely from a point outside the roof well out of the way of the fumes, and put on the head-pieces so as to cover their mouths and noses.

NOTE.—Masks only required with first solution containing tetrachlorethane.

4. The air-pressure, applied by means of the pump handle, was kept up at a pressure of from 20 to 60 lb. to the square inch by one operator who stood by the machine.
5. The other operator applied the nozzle of the hose to the wood and turned on the tap. The exact distance at which the nozzle was held from the wood varied to suit the size and position of the timbers being treated, but the spray was never allowed to fall from a distance upon the wood.

The object was to take advantage of the pressure to drive the liquid into the pores of the surface, and the nozzle of the hose was held as close as practicable without undue splashing and loss of the liquid.

Every part of the timber, new or old, was given at least two coats of the solution, or rather, was given two good soakings, for the spray was not discontinued until the surface had absorbed as much as it could hold and the solution was beginning to run and drip. Some difficulty was at first experienced in the spraying of the smaller parts of the open-work tracery, as the spray was liable to miss the wood and fall in a mist to the floor of the Hall. A special brush nozzle was made to meet this difficulty, and, as they became more experienced, the workmen also learned to adapt the ordinary nozzle for use on these parts. As the liquid ran through the hose the pressure steadily declined until the gauge indicated 20 lb. to the square inch, when the cocks were turned off and the pressure pumped up again to 60 lb.

As both the first (poisonous) solution and the second (or non-poisonous) gave off a pungent smelling vapour, it was found necessary to choose a time for the spraying work when few people would be actually in the Hall or the adjoining parts of the House of Commons.

Colour in Building

By HALSEY RICARDO [F.].

The annual revival of colour in London, in our squares and parks, due to the vernal ministration of nature, should suggest to us how much, by means of paint, colour wash and permanent coloured building materials, we might relieve the sombre appearance—in winter, and indeed throughout the year—of the city in which most of us have to spend our lives. I am told that in Magdeburg the inhabitants, smarting under the criticism of the dulness of their town, are busied now in brightening their churches, public buildings and houses with gay colouring, in order to please their æsthetic sense and to remove the reproach they are unwilling to suffer any longer.

We might do well to accept such an inspiring lead. There are many stucco-faced buildings in London which have to be periodically repainted, and what is required is, not that each tenant should colour his individual strip of house-front according to his fancy and the terms of his lease, but in co-operation with his neighbours treat the terrace, block of buildings and architectural composition as an entity, and so restore the original architectural conception of the group of buildings, designed as such.

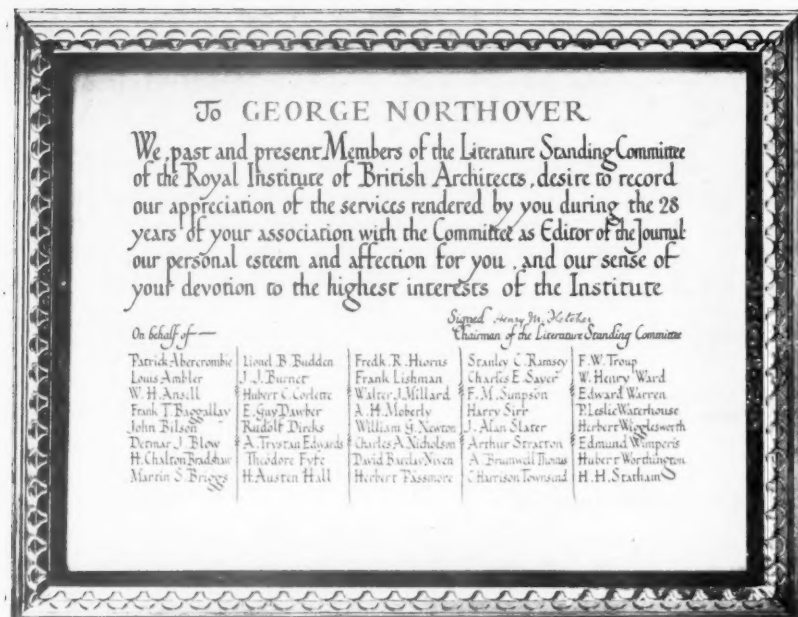
Even where the building has no relation to its adjuncts, much might be done to give a pleasing reaction from the dingy, usually timid, prevailing treatment by the house-painter.

A particularly interesting movement in this direction was inaugurated by the recent competition held under the auspices of the R.I.B.A. An anonymous donor offered £200 in prizes for the best treatment in coloured materials of a supposed business frontage in a London street. This offer had a most gallant and instructive response, and the schemes, 170 in number, had been on view at the Galleries of the R.I.B.A. It is hoped that the exhibition will have had the effect of stimulating the public to take an interest in a matter that really concerns it far more intrinsically than it is inclined to suspect and through habit and the numbing effect of past conventions to realise.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING, HEATING, ETC.

The Council have decided to arrange for the holding of a joint meeting between the Royal Institute and the Institution of Electrical Engineers for the purpose of discussing papers on the use of electricity for the lighting and heating of buildings and for domestic purposes.

Messrs. Paul and Michael Waterhouse have made a donation of £21 to the Architects' Benevolent Society.



Testimonial to Mr. Northover

ON Thursday, 25 May, the Front Library was the scene of a pleasant little ceremony, when Mr. Northover was presented by past and present members of the Literature Committee with a testimonial in token of his 28 years' association with the Committee as Editor of the JOURNAL. The testimonial was written on vellum by Mr. Macdonald Gill, the inscription in black, the name "George Northover" in gold, and the names of the signatories in red; the gilt and ebony frame was made by Mr. Joseph Armitage.

The Chairman, Mr. H. M. Fletcher, in making the presentation, said that they had got Mr. Northover there to tell him what they thought of him, a process which his modesty would make more interesting to them than to him. Twenty-eight years was time enough to lay the foundation of a solid friendship, and those who had worked with him would think of him often in his well-earned retirement. They would think of him as of one who hid his attainments under a thick bushel of modesty—an editor who raised the JOURNAL to the position which it holds. They would think of the heavy burden he bore during the war as temporary Secretary of the Institute, and would remember the earlier work, such as the Transactions of the Town Planning Conference in 1910, which he carried out so ably. These were some of the reasons why those who subscribed their names had done so, not with consent, but with enthusiasm.

Mr. Harrison Townsend, as one of the oldest members of the Committee, referred to the long and pleasant association which he had had with Mr. Northover, and to the devotion which he had always shown to the Institute.

Mr. Northover, in the course of his reply, said:—

"When I first came to the Institute—now going on for 29 years—among my scheduled duties was 'attendance at all meetings of the Literature Committee.' One usually finds on this Committee Institute Essay Medallists, authors of notable architectural books, authors of sessional papers, and of other important communications to the Transactions. Most of the members of the Institute who have made their mark in architectural literature have been at one time or another members of the Committee. To be associated with so distinguished a body was a privilege I have always been very deeply sensible of, and, needless to say, it has been of infinite value to me in the conduct of the JOURNAL. I owe my very grateful acknowledgments to the many members of the Committee who have given the JOURNAL the benefit of their scholarly erudition and literary talent.

"'He is a candle, the better part burnt out,' said one of Shakespeare's characters. This description fits exactly the retired man. Still, I admit that 'the cool, sequester'd vale of life' I have entered is not without its amenities. To me the most precious of these is the recollection I have of the agreeable relations that have always existed between the members of the Institute and myself. The kindly courtesy I have invariably received from members has made it a real pleasure to serve them. This precious testimony, enshrined in this beautiful writing, will be among my most cherished possessions, a perpetual source of pride and gratification to me and my home circle."

Allied Societies

LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

The President, Vice-president and members of Council of the Liverpool Council have been elected for the ensuing year of office as follows:—

President—Gilbert W. Fraser, F.R.I.B.A. *Vice-presidents*—Prof. L. P. Abercrombie, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.; W. Glen Dobie, A.R.I.B.A. *Honorary Secretaries*—Ernest Gee, A.R.I.B.A.; Felix Holt, A.R.I.B.A. *Members of Council—Fellows*: Hastwell Grayson, M.A., F.R.I.B.A.; Richard Holt; T. T. Rees, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I.; Arnold Thornely, F.R.I.B.A.; E. P. Hinde, F.R.I.B.A.; Edmund B. Kirby, F.R.I.B.A.; Prof. C. H. Reilly, M.A., F.R.I.B.A.; *Associates*: E. L. Bower, A.R.I.B.A.; H. A. Dod, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The Second Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Oxford on Saturday, 20 May.

The following members were elected for the ensuing year of office:—

President—E. P. Warren, Esq., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A. *Vice-presidents*—H. S. Rogers, M.A. (Oxon); C. S. Smith [F.], Berks; H. Passmore [A.], Bucks. *Hon. Auditor*—R. A. Rix [A.]. *Hon. Treasurer*—T. T. Cumming [A.]. *Hon. Secretary*—H. Hutt [A.].

The Annual report and balance sheet were adopted, and the President delivered an address which will be published *in extenso* in the Year Book. The Association has 125 members, and is to be congratulated on its rapid growth and successful work.

Architectural Association

THE HOUSE LIST.

The A.A. Council's nominations for the House List for the Session 1922-23 are as follows:—

President.—Mr. Stanley Hamp, F.R.I.B.A.
Vice-Presidents.—Messrs. L. S. Sullivan, A.R.I.B.A., and Gilbert H. Jenkins, Lic.R.I.B.A.
Honorary Treasurer.—Mr. E. Stanley Hall, M.A., F.R.I.B.A.
Honorary Editor.—Mr. M. T. Waterhouse, A.R.I.B.A.
Honorary Librarian.—Mr. Manning Robertson, A.R.I.B.A.
Honorary Secretary.—Mr. J. Alan Slater, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Ordinary Members of Council.—Messrs. W. G. Newton, M.A., A.R.I.B.A. (Past President), H. Barnes, M.P., F.R.I.B.A., T. A. Darcy Braddell, A.R.I.B.A., M. J. Dawson, F.R.I.B.A., F. C. Eden, M.A., G. P. Fildes, A.R.I.B.A., H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, P. D. Hepworth, A.R.I.B.A., Oliver Hill, E. J. T. Lutyens, A.R.I.B.A., H. I. Merriman, A.R.I.B.A., A. H. Moberly, F.R.I.B.A., S. C. Ramsey, F.R.I.B.A., A. B. Ll. Roberts, A.R.I.B.A., H. A. Saul, F.R.I.B.A., T. S. Tait, A.R.I.B.A., M. J. Tapper, A.R.I.B.A., Philip Tilden, C. Cowles-Voysey, A.R.I.B.A., T. M. Wilson, F.R.I.B.A., and G. G. Wornum, A.R.I.B.A.

Prizes and Studentships

HENRY SAXON SNELL PRIZE.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—I desire to draw the attention of your readers to the subject set for this prize for the current year—viz., "A Maternity Home and Infant Welfare Centre." In the cause of social progress these institutions are bound to have an importance in the future which is as yet little realised. Although a comparatively small number of specially designed buildings have been erected (and these are to some extent tentative), most Health Authorities have established Homes, if only in converted premises. In due course properly designed buildings will be required all over the country, and those architects who have made a study of the subject may well hope to reap the benefit. In this connection the prize offers a good opportunity for at least the commencement of such a study, and it is hoped that many practising architects will enter as competitors. Indeed, this is much to be desired.

A memorandum setting forth in detail the requirements and also some information of buildings and writings for reference has been prepared and approved by the Board of Architectural Education. A copy of this will be sent to each competitor.

The monetary value of the prize has been raised this year to £60.—Yours faithfully,

A. SAXON SNELL.

BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

R.I.B.A. HENRY SAXON SNELL PRIZE.

Owing to the generosity of Mr. A. Saxon Snell, the Henry Saxon Snell Prize has this year been increased by £10, bringing the value of the Prize to £60.

The subject set is a Maternity Home and Infant Welfare Centre. A memorandum setting forth the objects of such an institution and further particulars may be obtained, free of charge, from the Royal Institute.

EVERARD J. HAYNES,
Secretary to the Board.

R.I.B.A. STAFF.

Many members of the Institute will learn with regret of the death of Mr. W. H. Bond, who had been a member of the staff for the past twelve years. Mr. Bond served in the South African War, and subsequently in India and China. He was engaged at the Institute as a temporary assistant during the Town Planning Congress in 1910, and was afterwards retained on the staff as a clerk to the late Editor. Owing to his state of health, and greatly to his regret, he was unable to join the forces during the late war. He acted as Chief Clerk in the office during Mr. Baker's absence on war service. His frank and kindly nature endeared him to all his fellow workers.

Competitions

AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL.

The third and final set of Questions and Answers has been received, and is available for inspection in the Library.

DEWSBURY WAR MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E. F.R.I.B.A., as Assessor in this Competition.

LYTHAM PUBLIC HALL AND BATHS COMPETITION.

The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Mr. Alfred W. S. Cross, Vice-President, R.I.B.A., as Assessor in this Competition.

IAN MACALISTER,

Secretary.

COMPETITIONS OPEN.

Auckland War Memorial.

Ipswich War Memorial.

The conditions and other documents relating to the above competitions may be consulted in the Library.

Members' Column

Members, Licentiate, and Students may insert announcements and make known their requirements in this column without charge. Communications must be addressed to the Editor, and be accompanied by the full name and address. Where anonymity is desired, box numbers will be given and answers forwarded.

NOTICE OF PARTNERSHIP.

MR. W. H. GODWIN having acquired from Messrs. Godwin, Browett, Riley & Smith the entire Practice carried on by them as Architects and Surveyors at Vicar Street, Kidderminster, and Load Street, Bewdley, has arranged a Partnership with the Firm of Messrs. Pritchard & Pritchard, Architects and Surveyors, Bank Buildings, Kidderminster.

The Amalgamated Practices will now be carried on under the style of Pritchard & Godwin, A.R.I.B.A., Architects and Surveyors, Bank Buildings, Kidderminster, and Load Street, Bewdley.

Tel.: 183 Kidderminster, 27 Bewdley.

PARTNERSHIP.

A.R.I.B.A. (31), desires to Purchase a Partnership in well-established practice, provinces preferred; or would take charge of, or commence, a provincial practice in connection with one already established in London. Eight years' varied experience, including two years' University architectural training, and Government Departmental work. War service.—Apply Box 2452, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

PARTNER wanted by architect (Licentiate) of 30 years' practice, London and country, principally domestic work. Offices Whitehall. Considerable work in prospect. Capital £200.—Apply Box 2423, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

WANTED, a young, energetic Partner, with small capital, to develop a practice established over ten years by an Associate in a country town on the South Coast.—Send full particulars as to age, qualifications, etc., to Box 3052, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

MESSRS. ADAMS, BROAD & CO.

JOHN ADAMS, Architect, of Montevideo, Uruguay, has taken into partnership Mr. M. C. Broad, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. C. S. Higgins, A.M.L.C.E., the firm to be known as Adams, Broad & Co.

MR. BERNARD DANGERFIELD.

MR. BERNARD DANGERFIELD, M.C., A.R.I.B.A., is resigning his position as Assistant Architect, H.M. Office of Works, and is entering into practice with Mr. H. R. Coales, of Guelph, Ontario.

MESSRS. THOMS & WILKIE.

MESSRS. THOMS & WILKIE have moved to new offices at 21 South Tay Street, Dundee (Telephone No. 1558 Dundee).

TO SPECULATORS.

EXPERIENCED practical Assistant, successful at Flat Conversions, Old Cottages, etc., good chances in hand waiting finance, or part time with other architect. Licentiate R.I.B.A.—D. W., 77 Belgrave Road, S.W.1.

APPOINTMENTS WANTED.

A.R.I.B.A. desires Post; accustomed to responsibility, design, working drawings, details, specifications and supervision; good London office refs.; young, capable and enthusiastic.—Apply Box 4315, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

ASSISTANT, Associate, R.I.B.A., shortly disengaged. Working detailed drawings, specifications, supervision on job. Experienced commercial, factory and domestic buildings. Any part of the country.—Apply Box 2952, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

A.R.I.B.A., 28, urgently requires position as assistant. Working drawings, details, specifications, surveys. Experience in domestic, commercial, and church work. Excellent testimonials; neat and accurate draughtsman. Moderate salary. London or suburbs preferred.—Apply Box 2921, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

Minutes XVII

SESSION 1921-22.

At the Fourteenth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1921-22, held on Monday, 29 May 1922, at 8 p.m.—Mr. Paul Waterhouse, President, in the chair. The attendance book was signed by 18 Fellows (including 3 members of Council), 19 Associates (including 1 member of the Council), 4 Licentiate, and a considerable number of visitors.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 May, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of the following members:—

Mr. John Eaglesham,	elected Associate	1885.
Mr. David Christie,	"	Licentiate 1911.
Mr. John Jennison	"	" 1911.
Mr. A. V. de Souza	"	" 1911.

It was RESOLVED that the regrets of the Institute for the loss of these members be recorded on the Minutes of the Meeting, and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to their relatives.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President:—

Messrs. C. G. Butler and C. T. Pledge (Associates).

Mr. Wm. Harvey [J.] having read a paper entitled "Colour in Architecture," a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Professor Gerald Moira (Hon. Associate), seconded by Mr. Halsey Ricardo [F.], a vote of thanks to Mr. Wm. Harvey was passed by acclamation, and was briefly responded to.

The proceedings closed at 10 p.m.

Arrangements have been made for the supply of the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL (post free) to members of the Allied Societies who are not members of the R.I.B.A. at a specially reduced subscription of 12s. a year. Those who wish to take advantage of this arrangement are requested to send their names to the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.1.

Dates of Publication.—1921: 12th, 26th November; 10th, 24th December. 1922: 14th, 28th January; 11th, 25th February; 11th, 25th March; 8th, 22nd April; 6th, 20th May; 3rd, 17th June; 15th July; 19th August; 23rd September; 21st October.

